

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

ON

FOR THE

Week ending the 6th July 1912.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(c)—Jails—	
A letter from Khorassan ...	735	Nil.	
The Bushire Madrasah ...	ib.		
<i>Habul Matin</i> and the <i>Nevo Vremya</i> ...	ib.		
The Muhammadans in the Russian territory ...	736		
The <i>Aftakhan</i> ...	ib.	(d)—Education—	
The relations between Turkey and Germany ...	ib.	Appointment of Bhimsen Sarma ...	744
The projected Trans-Persian Railway ...	ib.	The headmaster of a High English school in Seraiganj ...	ib.
		Refusal of admission into the Presidency College.—	
		Its moral ...	ib.
		The enquiry into the Calcutta Madrasah ...	745
		Middle English schools ...	ib.
		Sibpur Engineering College ...	743
		Benefits of education in India ...	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—	
(a)—Police—		College Square ...	746
Lord Carmichael praised ...	737	Steeping of jute in rivers ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.	Malaria in Bengal—its preventives ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.	Local Board elections in Mymensingh ...	ib.
A case of brutal outrage on a woman, and the inactivity of the police ...	ib.	Want of roads in Bengal ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	738		
Lawlessness in Basirhat ...	ib.	(f)—Questions affecting the land—	
Mussalmans of respectable classes as opposed to Atrah, or low class Mussalmans ...	ib.	Nil.	
Police reform ...	739		
Supervision of the chankidars ...	ib.	(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation—	
The fine on Sonarang and other villages ...	740	Complaint against a station master ...	746
Requisition for Punitive Police forces and the Military Police by district authorities ...	ib.	Booking-clerks extracting bribes from Hedjaz pilgrims ...	747
A prayer to Lord Carmichael for withdrawal of punitive police ...	ib.	A Railway complaint ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.	The Masjid at Sealdah ...	748
Immoral Traffic in Benares ...	ib.	Railways—Railway passengers ...	ib.
Removal of the houses of ill-fame ...	ib.	The behaviour of the Whites ...	ib.
Frontier Raids ...	ib.		
(b)—Working of the Courts—		(h)—General—	
The Clarke case ...	741	Government title declined ...	749
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.	The title of Vaidyaratna ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	742	Dr. P. C. Ray, C.I.M. ...	ib.
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.	Raja Jyoti Pershad Singh Deo ...	ib.
The case against Israil Daroga ...	ib.		
Berhampore Hindu-Mussalman riot ...	743		
"Terrible <i>zulum</i> by a Magistrate" ...	ib.		
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.		
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.		
<i>Ibid</i> ...	ib.		
<i>Ibid</i> ...	744		
Civilian Judges for High Court ...	ib.		
A Chief Court Judgeship given to a military man ...	ib.		
Mr. Justice Rafique ...	ib.		
Bihar Waqf estate ...	ib.		

(h)—General—concluded.

The Khan of Hoti Mardan ...	749
Lord Crewe and Provincial autonomy ...	ib.
Ibid ...	751
Ibid ...	753
Ibid ...	ib.
Ibid ...	ib.
Ibid ...	754
Ibid "End of hope" ...	ib.
Ibid ...	755
Ibid ...	ib.
Ibid ...	ib.
Compensation to Mr. Clarke ...	ib.
Ibid ...	756
The temporary Capital at Delhi ...	ib.
A High Court for Bihar ...	ib.
The location of the new High Court for Bihar and Orissa ...	ib.
Proposed Patna High Court ...	ib.
Ibid ...	ib.
Wanted a Telegraph office ...	ib.
An advertisement for telegraph apprentices ...	757
Ibid ...	ib.
Special Sub-Registrar of Chapra ...	ib.
Alleged anti-muhammadanism among officials at Serajganj ...	ib.
Printing mistake in the <i>Calcutta Gazette</i> ...	758
The partition of Mymensingh ...	ib.
Ibid ...	ib.
Ibid ...	ib.
Sir A. Earle praised ...	ib.
Welcome to Lord Carmichael ...	ib.
An open letter to Lord Carmichael ...	759
Lord Carmichael's popularity ...	ib.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act ...	759
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IV.—NATIVE STATES.

The Mourbhanj State ...	760
Civilian Rule in Mourbhanj ...	ib.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Nil.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Appointment of Bengalis in Bihar ...	760
Obstacles to cordiality between Englishmen and Indians ...	ib.
"The Indian's hope" ...	761
Past and present of India ...	ib.

URIA PAPERS.

Necessity for Police reform ...	761
Meeting for founding Political Associations in Cuttack ...	ib.
A separate High Court for Bihar and Orissa objected to ...	762
Importation of salt from foreign countries into India not desirable ...	ib.
An irrigation canal for Balasore ...	ib.
Complaints against Presidents of village panchayats ...	ib.

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 11th May 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI.				
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly ...	Kanal Lal Das ; Hindu, Karmokar ; age 25 years ...	500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years ; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 43 years ; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Mukherji, v.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years ; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Durga Mohan Sen, Baidya, age 35 years ...	600
5	"Banga Janani" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baidya, age 37 years ...	.....
6	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sureschandra Samajpati ; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years ; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	18,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitaishi" ...	Bolepur (Birbhum) ...	Do. ...	Dibakar Banerji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 43 years ...	350
8	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Suri (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years ...	960
9	"Birbhum Vasi" ...	Rampurhat (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years ...	250
10	"Biswadut" ...	Howrah ...	Do. ...	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 36 years.	1,500
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	Do. ...	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years ...	500
12	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha." ...	Bhowanipore ...	Do. ...	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years ...	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 42 years ...	1,100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha." ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	850
15	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily, except on Thursdays.	Hari Das Dutt and Kshetra Nath Sen ...	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	Weekly ...	Satya Bhusan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years ...	80
17	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	80
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
19	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Baidya, age about 73 years ...	400
20	"Gaud Dut" ...	Malda ...	Weekly ...	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla ...	.....
21	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Rajshahi ...	Do. ...	Kasinuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan, Printer, age 41 years ...	185
22	"Hindusthan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hari Das Dutt ...	1,000
23	"Hitavadi" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakharan Ganesh Denshker	20,000 to 30,000
24	"Islam Babi" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Maulvi Nasimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
25	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do. ...	.....	About 300
26	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do. ...	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ...	500
27	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kali Sankar Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	930
28	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do. ...	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 45 years ...	500
29	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji ; Brahmin ; age 68 years ...	500
30	"Kulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	350

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI—contd.				
31	"Malda Samachar"	Malda	Weekly	Kali Prasanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years	440
32	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years	About 500
33	"Midnapore Hitaishi"	Midnapore	Do.	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years	200
34	"Medini Bandhab"	Midnapore	Do.	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 44 years	600
35	"Mahamaya" ...	Chinsura	Do.	Hem Sasi Som, Kayastha, age 57 years	150
36	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummil Haque	4,00 to 5,000
37	"Mubammadi" ...	Ditto	Do.	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	2,000
38	"Murehidabad Hitaishi."	Saidabad	Do.	Banwari Lal Goswami; Hindu, Brahmin; age 46 years	162
39	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta	Daily	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panekhari Banerjee	1,500 to 3,000
40	"Navavanga" ...	Obandpur	Weekly	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years	502
41	"Noakhali Sammilani"	Noakhali	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Das, Kayastha	200
42	"Nihar" ...	Contai	Do.	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years	300
43	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong	Do.	Charu Chandra Ray; Hindu, Kayastha; age 33 years	500
44	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years	300
45	"Pabna Hitaishi"	Pabna	Do.	Basanta Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 39 years.	100
46	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera	Fortnightly	Munshi Muhammad Ali Meen, Musalman, age 53 years	200
47	"Prasun" ...	Katwa	Weekly	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin age 47, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goals, age 41 years.	618
48	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampur	Do.	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years	503
49	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia	Do.	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years	About 700
50	"Rajsekti" ...	Do.	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years	110
51	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol	Do.	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 36 years	500
52	"Rangpur Durpan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Braja Nath Basak; Hindu, Tanti; age 52 years	200
53	"Rangpur Dibprakas"	Ditto ditto	Do.	Hara Sarkar Meitra, Brahmin, age 66 years	300
54	"Samay" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 58 years	500 to 800
55	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur	Do.	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 36 years	500
56	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College; Sibnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
57	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	Do.	Ka. Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years	300
58	"Suhrid" ...	Perajpur	Fortnightly	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha	200
59	"Sulabh Samachar"	Calcutta	Weekly	Jaladhar Sen, Kayastha, age 51 years	25,000
60	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto	Do.	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,500
61	"Siksha Samachar"	Dacca	Do.	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ... ..	.....
62	"Tippera Guide" ...	Comilla	Do. ... ..	.....	.....
63	"Tippera Hitaishi"	Tippera	Do.	Kamaniya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years	70
64	"Vartabaha" ...	Ranaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin; age 41 years	500 to 600
65	"Viswavarta" ...	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L.; Hindu, Baidya; age 36 years.	12,000

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
HINDI.					
6	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya)	Monthly	.....	.....
67	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Weekly	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi	About 4,000
68	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do.	Daily	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi, Hindustani, Brahmin, age 45; 2, Panchowri Banerji, age, 50, Brahmin.	300
69	"Bihar Bandhu"	Patna	Weekly	Mahabir Prasad Bania	400
70	"Biharee"	Bankipore	Do.	Akshari Basudeo Narayan Singh and Purneshottam Prasad Sarma.	700
71	"Ghar Bandhu"	Banchi	Fortnightly	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott	1,250
72	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Weekly	Hari Krishna Joshar, Khetri, age 36 years	1,500
73	"Hitvarta"	Do.	Do.	Babu Rao Paradkar; Mahatta, Brahmin; age 30 years	3,000 to 4,000
74	"Lakshmi"	Gaya	Monthly	Mahadeo Prasad, age 38 years	200
75	"Marwari"	Calcutta	Weekly	R. K. Tebriwalla; Hindu, Agarwalla; age 41 years	500
76	"Siksha"	Bankipore	Do.	Pandit Sakal Narayan Pandey Kavyatirtha, Brahmin	200
77	"Mithila Mihir"	Darbhanga	Do.	Pandit Joganand Kumar	600
78	"Satya Sanatan Dharma."	Calcutta	Do.	Radha Mohan Gokulji; Hindu, Vaisya; age 47 years	500
79	"Tirhut Samachar"	Muzaffarpur	Do.	Sangeswar Prasad Sarma, Brahmin	400
URDU.					
80	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	Weekly	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 years	500
81	"Darul Hukumat"	Calcutta	Weekly and bi-weekly.	Hafiz Bux Ellahi, Muhammadan, age 48 years	1,000
82	"Durbar Gazette"	Do.	Daily	Nawab Ali, Muhammadan	1,000
83	"Star of India"	Arrah	Weekly	Muhammad Zahurul Haque, Muhammadan, age 61 years	657
84	"Hablul Matin"	Calcutta	Weekly and daily	Syed Jelaiddin, Shiah Muhammadan, age 61 years	1,000
URIYA.					
85	"Garjatbasini"	Talchar State	Weekly	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 43 years	In Orissa.
86	"Sambalpur Hital-shini."	Deoghar	Do.	Dina Bandhu Gornayak, Chasa, age 37 years	Do.
87	"Samvad Vahaka"	Balasore	Do.	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 37 years	400
88	"Uriya and Nava-samvad."	Balasore	Do.	Ram Tarak Sen; Hindu, Tamil; age 50 years	450
89	"Utkal Varta"	Calcutta	Do.	Hrisikesh Pandey Kaviraj	500
90	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack	Do.	Gouri Sankar Ray	1,200

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st May 1912.

No.	Name of Publication,	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Sarba Hitaishi"*	Bankipore	Daily	Mahabir Prasad, (caste and age not known).	Not known.
2	"The Calcutta Advertiser."	Calcutta	Weekly.		
3	"Narad"	Chapra	Ditto.		
4	"Narad"	Ditto	Daily.		
5	"Dhruba Tara"	Mymensingh	Weekly.		
6	"Hitavarta"	Chittagong	Ditto.		
7	"Subarna Banik"	Calcutta	Ditto.		

No 33 "Medinipur Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 200 to 450

No 34 "Medini Bandhav"—the circulation has gone down from 600 to 426

No. 38 "Murshidabad Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 162 to 200.

No. 45 "Pabna Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 100 to 500.

No. 27 "Jyoti"—the circulation has risen from 930 to about 1,800—2,000.

No. 57 "Sansodhini"—the circulation has risen from 300 to 400.

* Defunct.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS,

THE *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 24th June publishes

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
June 24th, 1912.

A letter from Khorassan.

a letter from its Khorassan correspondent describing how the wicked people were let free, while innocent persons were sent to prison on their refusing to give out in writing that the jewelry and the precious relics of the holy tomb at Meshed were not tampered with. Indeed some persons, for instance Murtaza Quli, the Motawalli Bashi, bought their liberty on their complying with the above requisition. The fact is that precious jewelry, books, swords of Indian princes, etc., etc., to the value of three crores were removed from the shrine.

As for the massacre of the people, the letter says that Yusuf Khan and his deputies who had fled away from the town were shot dead by the Kafkuz Turks. The English Consul demanded that Yusuf Khan should be brought back alive to the town, but these Turks brought his corpse and suspended it from a tree. Of the number killed, 276 belonged to Meshed proper and 173 to its suburbs, 64 were pilgrims from India and other places, 340 came from Kafkuz, Bokhara and Afghanistan and 72 from other Persian towns and villages. Only 207 dead bodies were recovered, the remaining having been disposed of during the night to conceal the actual number of those murdered. Persia's rule here is but nominal. Virtually, the Russians are the masters of Meshed. Murtaza Quli, who continues as the Motawalli of the sacred buildings, justifies his action on the ground that he too would have shared the fate of Siqut-ul-Islam had he refused to comply with the Russian demand. The writer of the letter is, however, of opinion that it is he who is really at the root of all the mischief caused by the Russians, that he has had a large share in the recent plunder of jewelry, etc., from the shrine and that ere long he would proceed towards Europe to dispose of them.

2. One Muhammad Khalil Bahmani draws the attention of the people of Bushire, through the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 24th June, to

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
June 24th, 1912.

The Bushire Madrasah

the defects of the Madrasah Saadat of Bushire, where the pupils do not get any sound elementary education. After completing their training in Bushire, says he, the students often take their admission into the Karachi Madrasah (being nearest to them) where they have to spend uselessly some four years in learning Hindustani (a language almost useless to them.) The Secretary of the Bushire Madrasah should arrange with the Secretary of the Karachi Madrasah, so that the students coming from Bushire may receive instruction through the medium of Persian. Another suggestion is that the merchants of the various posts should establish local Madrasahs to prevent the students travelling to foreign countries for education.

3. Commenting on an article of *Novos Vremya* [St. Petersburg] under the head-line "The Russians, the English and the Afghans," the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 24th June says that it is almost

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
June 24th, 1912.

Hablul Matin and the *Novos Vremya*.

impossible that the rivalry of the English and the Russians regarding the Eastern affairs would come to an end. They may refrain for a short time from falling out with each other, and may remain friendly to all appearances but the spirit of rivalry will continue to be as keen in them as ever. The ignorance of the Persians, however, prevents their deriving any advantage from the political situation. They have suffered great loss during the past few months and there is no knowing of what they have still to suffer. The making and unmaking of the *Mejiss* is entirely due to the rivalry between the two Powers who bring about the changes through the Persians themselves.

The paper anticipates great changes in middle Asia Minor as a result of the interview arranged to take place between the Czar and the German Emperor. Persia having no patriots or master politicians, there is little hope of its reaping any advantage from the present circumstances.

What is left to it is now the long-cherished hope that the Regent, Nasir-ul-mulk, would try to do something for Persia during his intended visit to Europe.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
June 24th, 1912.

4. A correspondent of the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] reproduces in its issue of the 24th June, the speech delivered in the Russian Duma by Sadaruddin Beg Maqsd Aff, recounting the tyranny of the Russian Government over the Muhammadans in closing their schools and *Maktabas* and says that of the worshippers of the Cross, the Russians, are the worst enemies of the Musalmans. During the last two years the Russians have, by their movements, clearly shown that they desire to lay the axe at the very root of Islam. The English, who consider themselves the most liberal, the most civilized and the wisest of all nations, have not still realized if they have derived or are likely to derive any benefit from the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907. There is nothing to complain against the Russians when Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Minister of England, says that the integrity of Persia does not even deserve the life of a single English soldier. Persia has no right to ask the English, to disturb their existing political relations with other Powers, but the English being the next door neighbours of the Persians, at least should not try to demolish their house if they would not really help them in building one; for such destruction would be prejudicial to their own interest as well, inasmuch as they would not be able to check the advance of the Northern Power towards India. The independence of Persia is, therefore, necessary for the safety of the English Government also. The rest of the article is devoted to a description of the internal condition of Russia, the tyranny of the Russian army, the arrest and imprisonment of the liberty seekers with the help of the detective police, and the massacre of three hundred students, etc., etc.

5. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 24th June, reproduces an article from the *Aftakhan* dealing with the recent changes of the French Ambassadors of St. Petersburg, and the present relation of Russia and France with regard to Eastern affairs. In the opinion of the writer, the present attitude of Russia with regard to the East and her friendly relations with Italy, would go against France who now fully understands the intentions of the Russians.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
June 24th, 1912.

6. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, says that during the reign of Abdul Hamid Germany secured many railway concessions in Turkey, mainly the right to construct the Bagdad Railway on pretence of friendship. But Turkey was duped by her friend. Thinking herself strong enough in the strength of such a powerful ally, she neglected to strengthen herself adequately, and thus brought about her own ruin. In Thessaly she was victorious, but still German diplomacy prevented her from enjoying the fruits of her victory. Moreover, Crete is about to pass out of her hands. Are all these signs of Germany's love for Turkey? It is honest Turkey's blindness to crafty Germany's duplicity which is mainly responsible for her present perilous situation. Germany has never given any substantial proof of her friendship towards Turkey. Turkey, however, has granted her large railway concessions and appointed large numbers of Germans in the Turkish service. Germany, on the other hand, has been constantly trying secretly to injure Turkey. She is now conspiring with Austria, Italy and Russia to wrest Asia Minor, Syria and Mesopotamia out of her hands. England and France are opposed to this plan, their purpose being to prevent a break-up of the Turkish Empire. The Turko-Italian war is becoming more and more fierce as days are passing by. Of course, Turkey would have not much to fear if the contest remained confined between her and Italy. But gradually the political firmament of Europe is becoming more and more cloudy, and the chances of a great conflict between all the European Powers are becoming greater every day. The English have often befriended the Musalman Powers in times of difficulty and danger, and it is hoped that they will do so in future also.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
June 28th, 1912.

7. English statesmen, writes the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, objected to the extension of the Bagdad Railway to the Persian Gulf, on the ground of India's safety. How then are they now supporting

The projected Trans-Persian
Railway.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
June 28th, 1912.

the project of constructing a railway from Russia to India through Persia? Russia may at present be a friend of England. But where is the guarantee that she will not turn her enemy, if an opportunity offers for attacking India? Had it not been for the check she received in Manchuria, Russia would by this time have surely made herself firm at Khost, and threatened India with an invasion. England may not be afraid of Russia, but the very mention of the name of Russia makes us tremble with fear. The more difficult the path between Russia and India, the better for the latter. We pray the English Government to keep India perfectly safe from any future Russian aggression.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

8. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 27th June warmly praises Lord Carmichael for having issued, through Mr. Hughes-Buller, a notice to the police to behave gently with the public, when crowds gather to see His Excellency during his forthcoming monsoon tour.

NAYAK.
June 27th, 1912.

9. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd July welcomes the circular. It however hints the admission that the police ill-treat the people.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA.
July 2nd, 1912.

10. The circular has evoked the admiration of the *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 29th June, which considers the example set by Lord Carmichael as worthy of being followed by other provinces.

MITHILA MIHIR.
June 29th, 1912.

11. A correspondent of the *Islam Rabi* [Tangail] of the 21st June says that recently, one night, some budmashes, Namasudra by caste, forcibly carried away the young wife of one Noai, a Namasudra of village Barantali, under the Mirzapur thana, in the Tangail subdivision, while he was out in a neighbour's house. The ruffians ravished her most brutally in a jute field and then left her naked, unconscious, and bleeding on the verandah of a Namasudra co-villager. The offenders also were inhabitants of the same village. When they seized Chintamani, the woman ravished, she and the mother of Noai struggled violently, but to no effect. The cries of the women roused their neighbours and Noai also returned home in the meantime. They then searched for her all about. When Chintamani was found lying on the verandah of another Namasudra's house, she was perfectly unconscious. It was after a long and careful nursing that she regained her consciousness and told all that had happened. She had been taken to a jute field and her hands and feet were bound. She was then laid on the ground and one person placed his foot on her throat threatening to throttle her if she cried. Another person gagged her, and then she was ravished by 15 or 16 persons. Unable to bear the pain, she lost her consciousness. The village Chaukidar and many other men, saw her miserable condition when she was left by the budmashes.

ISLAM RABI,
June 21st, 1912.

A case of brutal outrage on a woman, and the inactivity of the police.

Early next morning, information of the incident was lodged in the Mirzapur thana. But the police did not take up the investigation of the case with promptness, and their conduct towards Chintamani and her husband was far from sympathetic and generous. Chintamani recognized many of her ravishers, and is able to say the names of many of them. But still the police have not yet made any arrest. This dilatory conduct of the police in a serious case like this has created a panic in the minds of the local people. The police have sent Chintamani to the Tangail Hospital for treatment. She is a good woman, so that every one in the locality is sorry for her.

In an editorial paragraph it is said that the Mirzapur police demanded a large sum of money from Chintamani's husband for expenses of investigation, and that the cause of the slackness of the police is the inability on his part to pay it. The police has done only so much as it cannot avoid doing under the circumstances. The attention of Mr. Golam Rubbani, Deputy Superintendent of Police, is drawn to the conduct of the police.

SANJIVANI.
June 27th, 1912.

A case of brutal outrage on a woman and the inactivity of the police.

NAYAK.
June 27th, 1912.

12. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June quotes the whole of the above account from the *Islam Rabi*, at the request of a very respectable man of Tangail, and says that such a case of brutal outrage, and neglect of duty on the part of the police, has not been heard of for a long time. It is a case for the immediate attention of the authorities.

Lawlessness in Basirhat.

13. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 27th June thus continues its articles of a special correspondent on "lawlessness in the Basirhat subdivision":—

The Ashraf* Mussalmans living in the Basirhat subdivision night and day heartily bless you and wish long life to yourself and to your *Nayak*. What you are doing to save the *jat* (caste) and *izzat* (honour) of respectable people is really indescribable. Mingling my voice with the voice of the Hindu and Moslem *bhadrolog* of this place, I also feel inclined to express a wish for long life to yourself and your *Nayak*. The local public heartily wish that the *Nayak* should thus play the part of a real *Nayak* or a true leader of the people.

* Mussalmans of respectable classes as opposed to Atrai, or low class Mussalmans.

M. Shamsul Huq of Khaspur practises as a Vakil at Basirhat. During the time he stays at Basirhat on professional business, his Khaspur house remains under lock and key. Recently, one night some people broke open the lock and carried away about three hundred rupees' worth of property. Considering the circumstances under which this incident took place, it ought to be called not a theft but a dacoity. There are clear indications that this theft was not committed by professional thieves from some other village. When this theft was reported to the local police they came, inspected the house and asked the old question "whom do you suspect?" The members of the household could not point to anybody they suspected, so the theft could not be traced. But I believe that if the police had instituted a search into the houses of some of the Khaspur people, they could have discovered the stolen property.

Sir, thanks to your efforts, the police of the Baduria thana seem now to be making some attempt to put down the lawlessness and unrest described before. I saw the senior daroga of the thana, and my impression is that he is not a bad man after all. Let us see how things turn out. The unrest and the vigour of the perpetrators of outrages continue undiminished still. It is said that on Tuesday last the Daroga Babu sent for Bachhtulla Mandal and asked him why events like those narrated were taking place. Bachhtulla, it is said, denied everything.

Syed Mukaddas Ali, the collecting panchayet of the Jadurhati Union, acted in that capacity till 1318 B. E. last. He has resigned that post in the present year. I learn on enquiry that the reason is that he is afraid of his life, because of the threats held out by the strikers. In connection with this matter, I have collected a good many reports derogatory to the reputation of the police, which I may publish later on, if necessary. If the present Daroga continues acting in the manner in which he has begun, there will be nothing to say against him. But the victims of oppression cannot sit quite inactive, free from all anxiety, merely on that contingency. They believe that this oppression will not be uprooted till the authorities impose a punitive police force on Khaspur village.

I learn on enquiry that the son of a fisherman living in the Basirhat subdivision is one of the promoters of these outrages and this unrest. He has gone about proclaiming all over the subdivision that among Mussalmans there are no distinctions of high or low, but that all are equal, regardless of family, honour and the like. It appears that he wanted to marry the daughter of an Ashraf and the local Ashrafs having objected to the match, he is creating this unrest. He is holding meetings in various places and addressing those gatherings in words calculated to give rise to unrest. This is one of the causes of the prevailing unrest. If this unrest and these outrages are to be repressed, it is necessary that this man also should be put down along with the others, and it is the duty of the authorities further to confiscate a book which this man has printed and is freely distributing among the masses. I am trying to secure a copy of this book; as soon as I get one, I shall send it

on to you. I understand that since the publication of these reports in the *Nayak* the Inspector Babu at Basirhat also is bestirring himself to some extent, and trying to put down the outrages and the unrest.

I have learnt a good many secrets about the Deputy Magistrate at Basirhat. At the present moment the leading men responsible for the unrest are trying, by various means, to spoil Panchu Sardar's case. If the Deputy Babu succumbs to those efforts, or if any steps are taken by him as a result of those efforts, I shall feel no hesitation in exposing his discreditable doings. If however, he is warned even now and sets himself to repressing crime and protecting virtue, he will undoubtedly earn the warm praises of the local Hindu and Musalman *Bhadralog*.

I hear that he is somewhat incensed at the reports in the *Nayak*, and has repeatedly asked the Mukhtears in his court if they knew who wrote those reports. I hereby warn him that if he is careful himself, the *Nayak* reporter also will be guarded in his reports. If he conducts himself with propriety we cannot possibly have anything to say against him. He should remember that he is bound so to act as to promote the public peace, and that he is the King's representative at Basirhat in order to remove the wants and grievances of the people.

I thought I was going to end here but probably God wills it otherwise. I have received a report just now that the oppressors have become so very daring that they have gone the length of forcibly preventing Priya Nath Rajak of Yadurhati and other washermen from washing the soiled clothing of the Miyans of Khaspur. They have threatened Priya Nath and the rest with death. So the Khaspur Miyans have been told by the washermen that they would no longer wash their clothes, and the clothes already made over for washing have been returned.

These authors of oppression are also trying to prevent Uma Charan Pramanik of Sherpur from shaving the Miyans of Khaspur. There is a practice in this place of these Miyans getting their paddy husked into rice by the local poor cultivators, in return for small wages. The organisers of these outrages have stopped this also; so that the Miyans are now being forced to buy rice to meet their daily wants. And they are buying rice at Rs. 5 per maund which the ordinary cultivator buys at Rs. 4. And the Miyans cannot purchase their rice from Calcutta or elsewhere, for they cannot hire a cart or a labourer or a *palki* in their own name. Hari Kaora of Yugipukuria went the other day to Swarupnagar station to carry the bridegroom who had married the daughter of Syed Mukaddas Ali but he was told to go away, and warned that he would be severely punished if he did such a thing again.

We ask the authorities if these outrages do not constitute a state of lawlessness. Why then is no step being taken yet to put a prompt stop to all this? Are there no means in the hands of the authorities to stop all these outrages, and unrest and lawlessness? It has now become impossible for the Khaspur and Rajberiya Miyans to put up with all this oppression. They say, "Let the authorities either protect us effectively or let them take away everything that we have so that we may leave this place, for this oppression is getting intolerable." Will the Subdivisional Magistrate simply be content to taste the *Chhihinde* (?) fish? Can he do nothing to save the weak from oppression by the strong? Unless Mr. Samman attends to this matter, disgrace will attach to the rule of Lord Carmichael.

14. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 26th June, suggests that to attract really good and educated Indians to the police force, they should be made eligible for the Superintend-

Police reform. entships of Police, or, if that is not practicable, provision should be made for travelling allowances for investigating police officers. Such allowances will be an incentive to policemen to be always out in the mufassal, so that local investigation into crimes will be promptly held instead of being delayed as now. The subject of Police reform is urgent, and should engage Lord Carmichael's prompt attention.

15. While thanking the Police Superintendent of Darbhanga for taking prompt action on its complaint about the frequent occurrences of dacoities in the jurisdiction of the Manigachhi Thana, the *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 29th June, draws

Supervision of the chowkidars.

KALYANI,
June 26th, 1912.

MITHILA MIHIR,
June 29th, 1912.

attention to the necessity of supervising the chowkidars who neglect their night duties, and have often a hand in the thefts committed in their charge.

The paper suggests immediate suspension and transfer from one charge to another, of a chaukidar found to be neglecting his duty.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

16. Referring to the fine levied on Sonarang and some other villages in Dacca, to compensate the relatives of some men suspected by the police to have been murdered for political reasons, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, asks why Moslems and Kaibartas have been exempted from this fine, as stated by the *Barisal Hitaishi*? There has been a Punitive Police posted here for one and a half years now at the cost of these villagers. It is they and the regular police who ought to pay this fine for failing to detect the murderers. These repeated impositions on the villagers are bound to create discontent. Could not Government have provided a pension to the relatives of the victims without levying this fine, as it has done in the case of the widow of Mon Mohan De Bhaumik of Rautbhog?

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
June 28th, 1912.

Requisition for Punitive Police forces and the Military Police by district authorities.

17. Referring to the frequency with which district authorities now requisition the help of Punitive Police forces and the Military Police, the *Education Gazette* [Chinsurah] of the 28th June, says that it very often proves the incompetence of the District Magistrate to grapple with difficult situations, and sometimes his rashness. But there are Magistrates, one of whom is Mr. D. B. Allen, Subdivisional officer of Serampore, who have too high a respect for their own worth and ability to requisition such help every now and then. Such officers should be highly praised in the Annual Administration Reports of the Government. But if instead of doing that Government praises and favours such officers as do frequently seek the help of Punitive Police forces and the Military Police, on the ground of their being "strong officers", the situation will never be improved. A really strong man is he who is just. The attention of Lord Carmichael is drawn to the matter.

BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

A prayer to Lord Carmichael for withdrawal of Punitive Police.

18. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June requests Lord Carmichael to favourably consider the petition submitted to His Excellency by the Faridpur District Association for withdrawal of the Punitive Police force quartered in some villages within the Madaripur Subdivision.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

Ibid.

19. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June also makes the same prayer to the Governor.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

20. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June republishes a complaint made by the *Trisul* newspaper about the prevalence at Benares of a regular system of selling girls for immoral purposes to rich debauchees. In some cases, batches of girls are openly brought in carriages and exhibited before a debauchee, who picks out his choice and haggles about the price of the girl selected with the person who has brought her to him. There are even *dalals* or brokers engaged in this nefarious trade. The evil has reached scandalous proportions, and demands prompt notice of the police and of Hindu Society.

SHIKSHA,
June 27th, 1912.

Removal of the houses of ill-fame.

21. The *Shiksha* [Arrah] of the 27th June points out the necessity of legislation for the protection of girls and for the removal in every town from the proximity of schools and private residences, of the houses of ill-fame to a secluded place.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1912.

Frontier Raids.

22. Referring to the raids on the Hindus in the Frontier Province and the circular issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Bannu as reported by the *Punjabee* in which the Hindus have been advised to leave the villages and settle in town, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st July suggests, as an alternative to the recommendation of the *Punjabee*, that the Hindus should be exempted from the provisions of the Arms Act, which will enable them to protect themselves from the attack of the robbers.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

23. Referring to the judgment of the Privy Council in the Clarke case, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th June writes :—

The Clarke case.

We reserve comment till a copy of the full judgment is received. In the meantime, we are surprised to see the *Englishman* and the *Statesman* dancing in joy. It is really strange logic for the latter to argue that this judgment shows the necessity for improving the judicial capacity of the High Court. How does the *Statesman* know that it is the High Court which is wrong, until it has seen the Privy Council judgment and knows the reasons adduced by Their Lordships? All men are liable to mistakes; so is it not indicative of impartiality to assume at the outset that the Privy Council must necessarily be right. Both the High Court Judges and Their Lordships of the Judicial Committee are skilled lawyers. If they can differ on a certain point of interpretation, public view on the subject cannot be expected to be unanimous. So the chances are that, when the judgment of the Privy Council is received here, both lawyers and the members of the public will continue holding different opinions. Under these circumstances, it is by no means proper to conclude that the High Court has been guilty of a travesty of justice in this case. Often it happens that a Munsif's judgment is reversed by a District or Subordinate Judge, but finally accepted by a High Court Bench. So a judgment of an Appeal Court need not by any means be accepted as correct until one has seen the reasons adduced.

The *Englishman's* comment on this case is to the effect that this Privy Council judgment will be received with despair by men whose settled policy it is to make the work of governing the country impossible. This remark shows a lamentable spirit of hatred. A man who can say that the High Court's judgment in this case was welcomed only by men who try to make the government of this country impossible, is one who has few equals for arrogance, rashness and shamelessness. It only becomes a paper like the *Englishman* to ascribe bad motives to men who welcomed the High Court judgment because they thought it just. One can guess how far these papers can claim to be impartial in this case, when they express their opinions without waiting to see the reasons adduced by the Privy Council for their judgment.

24. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June writes as follows :—

Ibid.

The judgment has made our Anglo-Indian contemporaries dance with joy. The *Pioneer* says that the judgment of the Privy Council has made the rulers of Bengal feel the need of a court superior in position and legal knowledge to the High Court, the judgment of which served to greatly lower their prestige. The paper also hopes that henceforward judicial officers will cease scrutinising and finding fault with the doings of executive officers. The *Englishman* says that the judgment of the High Court gave great satisfaction to those who wanted to make administration an impossibility in this country, but now the judgment of the Privy Council will disappoint them in the same proportion. In this manner every one has said just as it has pleased him to say. Of course, neither the High Court nor the public will be any the worse for what they may say, but the same cannot be said about the judgment of the Privy Council. Has the *Pioneer* or the *Englishman* thought how much this judgment will lower the prestige of the High Court, which has so long been deemed by all men as a pillar of British justice in India? Now many people may dance at it, but some day they, too, will have to feel that the High Court is the only firm place of shelter for them. Since the establishment of High Courts in India, none of them ever before received such a severe blow to their honour. It is a matter of great wonder that the Judges of the Privy Council differed from the view held by three judges of the High Court who had heard the case in the first instance and on appeal. We have no knowledge of legal niceties and must, therefore, bow to the judgment of the Judges in England. But considering the time, place and persons concerned, we think that the search by Mr. Clarke ought to have been undertaken after careful consideration. It was a troublous time. Musalman rioters were desecrating Hindu temples, plundering the cutcheries of Hindu zamindars and outraging Hindu women. We leave it to the good sense of the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* to judge

BASUMATI,
June 29th, 1912.

BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

whether, in this state of things, Mr. Clarke acted wisely by going to search a Hindu zamindar's cutcheri in the company of Musalmans, and breaking open boxes and so forth with instruments brought by them.

The judgment of the Privy Council has not, as a matter of fact, given satisfaction to the public, and it is well for the empire that the prestige of the High Court is not likely to be lowered in their estimation by anything of the kind. We have not yet received the full text of the judgment of the Privy Council; so we are not yet in a position to say anything more on the subject.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

25. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June thinks that Anglo-Indian rejoicing at the judgment of the Privy Council—rejoicing of the *Statesman* and the *Englishman*—is

only natural. But Indians are amazed. They thought it inconceivable that the High Court would be thrown overboard in this matter. Brajendrakishore Babu personally will no doubt be able to bear his losses in this case, but the people of the country at large must henceforth be in dread of officials, full of arrogance caused by the possession of power.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
June 24th, 1912.

26. The *Tripura Hitaisi* [Calcutta] of the 25th June says that the upsetting of the judgment of the High Court by the Privy Council, sitting thousands of miles away,

has caused great astonishment in this country. Although no one has the right to question the correctness of the Council's decision, it is certain that the public does not admit the soundness of it.

BARISAL HITASHI,
June 24th, 1912.

27. The *Barisal Hitaisi* [Barisal] of the 24th June discussing the judgment of Mr. Ganga Narain Ray, Additional District Magistrate, in the case against Israil

The case against Israil Daroga.

Daroga, writes that the judgment reads like the speech of the Vakil for the accused. The defects in the evidence adduced by the complainants are pointed out *in extenso*: but no reference has been made whatever to the circumstances going against the accused; or where any reference has been made, the circumstances have been interpreted as much in favour of the accused as was possible. We cannot agree with Mr. Ray in holding that the complainant was allowed the amplest opportunities of proving the case against the accused, and we mention the following facts in support of our position:—

(1) The prosecution being poor and resourceless and the accused being persons of wealth and influence, the former prayed to have the services of the Government pleader engaged on his side. The Magistrate rejected this prayer on the ground that "the truth of the prosecution story was still open to doubt." We ask: Is the Government pleader engaged only in cases, where the truth has already been decided to be on a certain side? If that is so, why should Government incur the great expense of engaging a Government pleader merely to support truth already ascertained? And also why do accused get off in hundreds of cases where the Government pleader conducts the prosecution? And how can it be ascertained before evidence has been taken in a case, which side of it is right and which is wrong.

Our idea is that the Government pleader should be engaged in all serious cases. This case in particular required the services of a Government pleader to prosecute, because the prosecutor was poor and resourceless. Again, no inquiry was held into this case previously by a Deputy Magistrate or any high police officer, so that it was impossible for the prosecution to collect all his witnesses from the various places where they were scattered. And all this time Israil Daroga was in office—and a daroga frightens many witnesses away. Had the Government pleader conducted the case, the witnesses would not have been in such terror and the co-operation of the police, too, would have been secured.

(2) The Magistrate demurred to the list of witnesses put in by the prosecution. He first objected that the prosecution had not put in all the names in his original plaints, then asked what each particular witness was to prove and ultimately refused to issue summonses against some of them, because the names of their respective fathers had not been given. How many cases are there where the prosecution is asked to state beforehand what each witness is to prove? In a case like this where the accused were rich and powerful, was not an opportunity afforded to the defence to tamper with the witnesses, when it came to know beforehand what each witness was to prove? And the

summonses could easily have been issued even though, in some cases, the name of the father of the witness was not given. The fact is, a good deal of fuss was made over trifles in this case.

(3) Jnanada Sundari, the woman who was the principal witness in the case, had a warrant issued against her to compel appearance. The prosecution wanted a search-warrant to be issued by the Magistrate on the Commissioner of Police of Calcutta, where she was supposed to be. But Mr. Ray would not give any search-warrant. His order, as actually issued, meant that the prosecution were to find her out and the police would detain her in custody when brought before them and identified. This order is really inexplicable. If the prosecution could find her out in such a big city as Calcutta, they might very well without police assistance have produced her in Court. It was because they were unable to find the woman, that they wanted the police to help them in the matter. That help the Magistrate refused, and yet it is in this class of cases that a search-warrant is ordinarily issued.

(4) The evidence of Assistant Surgeon Jamini Kanta Sen was not taken before Mr. Ray, because he insisted first that his evidence need not be taken at all, and the prosecution was to deposit money covering first-class passage and professional fees for three days for the doctor in question. The prosecution repeatedly prayed that these expenses might be borne by Government, but without avail. So this very important witness was lost to the prosecution.

(5) The expenses of the prosecution witnesses were all borne by the prosecution, though this case being one triable before the sessions, those expenses should have been borne by the Crown. This necessitated the elimination of many witnesses whose evidence would have been most valuable to the prosecution.

(6) During the examination of the prosecution witnesses, the Court repeatedly remarked that they were proving nothing. And on some technical objection or other the Magistrate, it is said, declined to record a large mass of evidence necessary from the standpoint of the prosecution.

Anyway, we are reassured to learn from a reliable source that Israil Daroga has been called on by Mr. Thomas, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, to show cause why he should not be dismissed from the public service.

28. Referring to the Hindu-Muslim riot at Berhampore in Madras, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st July says that after the attack of Muslims the Hindus acted in self-defence and to save their idol from being defiled; still they were found guilty by the court.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1912

Berhampore Hindu-Muslim riot.

29. Referring to certain allegations recently made in the *Bengalee* against Mr. Milne, Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th June writes:—The complaints are most serious. If true, a man like him ought not to be retained in charge of a district. The report of the *Bengalee's* special correspondent need not be disbelieved, because Mr. Kirkwood, the aggrieved party, narrated the facts in person to him. A Deputy Commissioner who can make contemptuous remarks in public against a High Court Judge, as Mr. Milne is said to have made against Mr. Justice Fletcher, who does not appear in Court at the regular hours, who can abuse and deal a blow and kick at a European subject of His Majesty, ought not to hold his office for an instant. A prompt inquiry is needed into the complaints.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
June 28th, 1912.

30. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June hopes that an enquiry will at once be instituted into the complaints published in the *Bengalee* against Mr. Milne.

BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

31. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June asks for an enquiry into these allegations and for Mr. Milne's exemplary punishment, if they are found true.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

32. If what the *Bengalee's* correspondent has written be true the sooner Mr. Milne is removed from the Civil Service, says, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th June, the better both for the people as well as the Civil Service and the Government.

HITAVARTA,
June 30th, 1912.

SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1912.

33. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June also says that if the "Terrible *sulum* by a Magistrate." complaints are true, Mr Milne ought to be relieved of his Magisterial duties. Was it not he who, as Magistrate of Rajshahi, sanctioned the proceedings against Santosh Babu, Professor of the Rajshahi College?

DAILY BHARAT MITRA,
July 2nd, 1912.

34. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd July would not have Civilian Judges for High Court. Civilian Judges of High Court as they do not possess sufficient legal knowledge, and cannot shake off the impressions created by the administrative work previously done by them.

SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1912.

35. Referring to the appointment of Colonel Grey Beadon as a Judge of the Punjab Chief Court, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June says that this is the first time that a military man, performing the duties of a Civilian, has been appointed a Judge of a High Court or a Chief Court. A military man ought never to be appointed a High or Chief Court Judge. Judgeships of these courts ought to be reserved for pleaders and barristers only and not even for Civilians.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

36. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June cordially approves of the appointment of Maulvi Muhammad Rafique as a Judge of the High Court of Allahabad, and asks Mr. Justice Rafique. when, in Bengal also, a member of the subordinate judiciary will be similarly promoted to the High Court.

STAR OF INDIA,
June 28th, 1912.

37. Referring to the appeal now pending in the High Court preferred by Moulvi Muhammad Musa, the late Mutwalli of the estate, against the judgment of the District Judge of Patna, the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 28th June has come to learn from its correspondent that, under the orders of the European manager, all the estate servants, such as Patwaris and others, have been obliged to contribute towards the cost of the appeal which, if true, is most objectionable and so there is a great disquiet in the estate these days. The paper further regrets the fate of the estate in the hands of a non-Moslem, and says that the poor, supported from the charity funds in the time of the said Maulvi, are now turned away disappointed, all charitable work having been altogether stopped. The office staff which, under the terms of the trust, must be composed of Musalmans has an accountant who is a Bengali Hindu.

(d)—Education.

DAILY BHARAT MITRA,
July 2nd, 1912.

38. The appointment of Pandit Bhimsen Sarma as University lecturer on Vedas has, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd July, given satisfaction to the Hindi-speaking public who consider themselves honoured by the appreciation of merit by the University.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
June 28th, 1912.

39. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, publishes the same correspondence complaining against the Head Master of the Salap High English School within the Serajganj Subdivision, as has been already reported (see Weekly Report on Native Papers dated the 29th June 1912, paragraph 43) and, in an editorial paragraph, requests the Divisional Inspector of Schools to enquire into the matter and save the educational career of the oppressed boy from ruin.

JASOHAR,
June 29th, 1912.

40. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 29th June, writes that recently the Presidency College authorities refused admission to a large number of students seeking admission into that Institution. This fact ought not to make us angry. Englishmen are indirectly telling us by this to look out for industrial and agricultural openings in life. Are they not discouraging us practically by a step like this from wasting our lives as clerks or as members of professions like law and medicine already congested? This is the point of view from which we ought to look at these things.

41. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June takes exception to

The enquiry into the Calcutta Madrasah affair.

the manner in which the enquiry into the charge of selling question papers brought against the Head Maulvi of the Calcutta Madrasa has been conducted by the Principal of the institution. The Head Maulvi of the Madrasa is held in high esteem by all Musalmans in this country, and it is most unlikely that he should sell question papers. There is, moreover, little temptation for poor students of Arabic to buy them with money, for by passing the Arabic examinations they do not acquire any qualification for earning money. If it is necessary to get rid of the Maulvi from the institution, it may be done by bringing against him a less dishonourable charge. If the Director of Public Instruction had any suspicion about the honesty of the Maulvi, he ought to have asked for an explanation from him. But instead of doing that he at once directed the Principal of the Madrasah to hold an enquiry into the matter. The Principal is the Registrar and the Maulvi the Assistant Registrar of the Madrasah system in Bengal, and although the Principal has not reserved for himself any duty concerning the examinations, yet he is undoubtedly concerned with them. It is, therefore, inconceivable how the Director entrusted him with the enquiry. If an enquiry was necessary, it might have been made by a committee consisting of such members as Nawab Syed Muhammad, Prince Muhammad Bakhtiyar Shah, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shurfuddin, Nawab Abdur Rahman, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus Salam, Nawab Serajul Islam and the Hon'ble Sir Ashutosh Mukerji. The Principal, however, held the enquiry in the absence of the Maulvi and with the help of a clerk and a lower class teacher of the institution. The *Sahab* does not know Bengali or Urdu and the students also, whose evidence was taken, do not know English, so that he had to depend entirely on the interpretations of the clerk and the teacher. And where is the guarantee that they interpreted correctly? The matter, therefore, requires further enquiry on strict, regular lines, for it concerns the honour of a most respected man of the Musalman community.

42. Pandit Kshetra Nath Banerji, Kabyakantha, of 29 Beniapurkur Road,

Middle English Schools.

Entally, writes to the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th June dwelling on the sad times on which Middle English schools have fallen. No longer are passed students of these schools eligible for mukhtearships, for admission into the Campbell Medical School, or for service in the post office or on the railways. The market is too much flooded with B.A. and F.A. passed men for them to have any opening. Again, the incentive of a public examination has been taken away from the students of these Middle English schools. Only picked scholars, selected by the Inspector, are allowed to appear at a scholarship examination. The result of it all has been a distinct falling off in the number of students sent to these schools.

While thus the income from students' fees has fallen off, the calls on the resources of these schools are steadily increasing, thanks to the growingly higher standard of equipment, housing, etc., insisted on by the Education Department. Formerly, the classes were generally held in rooms lent by some rich local persons. Now a site on approved lines has to be found, and a house built on plans approved by the District Board office. Then, again, higher educational qualifications are now insisted on in the case of the headmaster, the second master, and the head pandit than before. Good library equipment is also an essential requisite. And to cap all these difficulties, students passing out of these schools, who used formerly, as a matter of course, to be admitted into the third or fourth class of high schools, are now required by the headmasters of high schools to prove their eligibility for such admission by undergoing an examination. This is another reason for the unpopularity of the Middle English schools. All these difficulties—falling income and growing demands as regards equipment etc.—are reducing the Middle English schools to a really deplorable condition. Specially hard is the lot of Middle English schools situated in poor villages, where there is no rich zamindar to support the institutions financially. In these poor schools, it often becomes difficult to engage a qualified head master, unless a local self-sacrificing man with the necessary educational qualification offers himself for the work, and the services of such sacrificing men cannot often be accepted by the school

MOSLEM HITASHI.
June 28th, 1912.

NAYAK.
June 30th, 1912.

committee for reasons connected with village cliquisms. Let Government do something to raise the condition of these schools.

SHIKSHA,
June 27th, 1912.

43. The *Shiksha* [Arrah] of the 27th June hopes that the Bengal Government would see that the Sibpur Engineering College is improved instead of being abolished.

Sibpur Engineering College.

DAILY NARADA,
June 27th, 1912.

44. Although the *Daily Narada* [Chapra] of the 27th June is grateful to Government for the blessings of education enumerated in a previous issue, it regrets that

Benefits of education in India.

the object for which it was introduced in the country has not been attained for it has been the means of breaking up the joint family system, increasing litigation and sowing the seeds of discord in society.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 1st, 1912.

45. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st July emphatically protests against the rumoured intention on the part of Government to appropriate College Square

[College Square.

to building a number of hostels for students of affiliated colleges, as desecration of a site hallowed by many memories, and as depriving the local public of a pleasant evening resort necessary for their health.

MUHAMMADI,
June 28th, 1912.

46. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June publishes a correspondence on the steeping of jute in the Kapotaksha and Betna rivers written by the same person with the same object who wrote the letter which appeared in the *Khulnavasi* of the 1st instant (see Report on Native Papers of the 15th June 1912, paragraph 48).

Steeping of jute in rivers.

BASUMATI,
June 29th, 1912.

47. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th June writes that Government should cease trying to rid Bengal of Malaria by cheap methods like sprinkling petroleum on stagnant pools of water which harbour the anopheles

Malaria in Bengal : its preventives.

mosquitoes. Methods like these are not efficacious in a sufficient degree, and have their attendant dangers as recently pointed out by Captain Frederic MacCabe. Let it undertake to give the country a proper system of drainage, to fill up the holes and small pools of water, and to cleanse the tanks. The old rivers are silting up and they require to be re-excavated. And roads and railways require to have an adequate number of culverts provided under them. Measures like these are certain to produce good effects.

NAYAK,
July 2nd, 1912.

48. A correspondent of the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 2nd July complains that during the recent general elections to the Mymensingh Local Board, the Musalman voters were all urged by some Moslem leaders to vote

Local Board elections in Mymensingh.

for Moslem candidates irrespective of merit, so that only Hindu candidates might not get in. The Hindu candidates, apprehensive of creating racial feeling, withdrew, many of them, their candidature and others did not press their claims. The result has been that of the 10 new members 9 are Moslems. Besides the above, many irregularities were perpetrated in connexion with the elections—which may be all quashed if Government looks into the matter.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

49. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June complains that in spite of the people of Bengal having paid the road and public works cesses for some 30 or 40 years now,

Want of roads in Bengal.

there are large rural areas in Bengal unprovided with roads. This is due to the perfunctory way in which the District Boards do their work. The roads in the villages inhabited by the members of the Board are well attended to, but the rest of the villages are neglected. The neglected villages feel this want, specially in the present rainy season. Let the members of the District Boards henceforth be more mindful of the wants of each entire district.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
June 28th, 1912.

50. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June says that complaints of oppression on Musalman passengers are frequently heard against the station-master of the Sangram-pore station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway,

Complaint against a station-master.

southern section. A recent case is reported by Munshi Abdur Rahman of Magrahat. He says that, on the 29th Jaistha last, a young man, named Muhammad Hossain, of village Bamna, near the station, happened to accidentally tear off a small portion of a notice on the notice board of the station, his umbrella having struck against it in his hurry to purchase a ticket at the booking window, which lay by the side of the notice board. For this offence he was brutally belaboured by the station jamadar and the station-master. Many respectable passengers interceded for him, but to no effect. He was next heavily chained and tied to the weighing machine of the station. Afterwards, through the intercession of one Haji Naim Haldar living near the station, he was released on payment of a fine of rupees four to the station master. The case is now *sub judice* in the criminal court at Diamond Harbour.

The correspondent goes on to say that 20 or 25 villages surrounding the Sangrampur station, are inhabited mostly by illiterate Musalmans on whom the station master commits great oppression. There is a Middle English school in the local market-place, the condition of which was very good before the advent of this station master. But he has by his machinations brought about such party disputes at the place, that the number of students on the rolls of the school has greatly decreased. Last year, through his conspiracy, Achiruddin Ahamad, Secretary to the institution, was obliged to pay demurrage for a wagon to the amount of Rs. 50. But afterwards when the authorities understood that the money had been unjustly realized, it was refunded to him. About three or four months ago, the local men instituted a number of suits against the station master, all of which were afterwards amicably settled through the intercession of the higher authorities of the railway. The station master's anti-Musalman spirit is well illustrated by the following incident: Every year, the said Achiruddin Ahamad, Secretary of the local school, holds a religious meeting of Musalmans with money raised by public subscriptions. The station master also annually gives a *jatra* performance in the station godown with money realized from nearly seventy local carters at the rate of Re. 1 per head. This year he had made arrangements for holding this *jatra* performance on the day of the religious meeting of the Musalmans; and it was only when he saw that the entertainment could not be successful unless the local Musalmans attended, that he postponed it to a subsequent day.

51. A correspondent of the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June believes that the booking-clerks of all railway stations realize bribes from Hedjaz pilgrims wanting to purchase tickets from them. This idea of his, he says, has been confirmed by the evidence of three or four parties of pilgrims he happened to meet. Most of the pilgrims being illiterate, it is not at all difficult to extract bribes from them. On the 15th of *Agrahayan*, 1312 B.S., the booking-clerk of Rajmahal on the East Indian Railway Branch, Loop Line, extracted bribes to the tune of four annas each from nearly 25 pilgrims by saying that otherwise they would not get tickets for Bombay direct. To me, he said, that it was the Magistrate's order not to sell tickets for Bombay. The pilgrims who had come to the station with bag and baggage for a long pilgrimage were not in a position to protest against the booking-clerk's demand and miss the train, and consequently had to pay the money demanded. I and my companion, however, got our tickets for the usual fare. Returning from Hedjaz, I brought this matter to the notice of the railway authorities. Thereupon, the Superintendent of the Railway wrote to me to appear at Rajmahal with my witnesses on a certain day when he too would be present at the station. I was, however, prevented by illness from appearing at Rajmahal on the appointed day. Now, the Hedjaz Committee ought to move in the matter.

MUHAMMADI,
June 28th, 1912.

52. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th June speaks strongly of the annoyance caused to Indians travelling second-class on the East Indian Railway by Eurasian employes of the Railway who travel free in the same carriages, indulging in obscene language, spitting and putting their feet on the seats opposite. When Bengali ladies travel in these second-class carriages, these *Feringhee* subordinates often behave with an intolerable obscenity. These annoyances are specially common on the journey from Howrah to the stations adjoining, and from Raniganj to Sitarampore. If these railway employes are to be

NAYAK,
June 30th, 1912.

A Railway complaint.

allowed to travel second-class free, let there be a separate carriage reserved for them and their people in each train. Indians travelling second-class often have *syces* and *coachmen* under them better dressed and behaved than these *Feringhee* railway employes. Let the Railway provide a separate carriage for these servants of theirs, and let these men carry a number prominently on their uniforms, so that if they enter any ordinary carriage without authority, they may be easily reported against. And let ticket-Inspectors be specially told to be careful about the observance of the proposed rule. As it is, the existing arrangements often compel well-to-do Indians to avoid the second-class and travel inter-class.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
June 28th, 1912.

53. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June thanks the Government for withdrawing from the purpose of acquiring the Masjid at Sealdah for the Eastern Bengal

The Masjid at Sealdah.

State Railway.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1912.

54. In the course of a long article, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st July criticises the railway policy of Government which, it says, though not like that of the Russian

Railways—Railway passengers.

Government has little regard for the convenience and comfort of passengers—specially, the third-class passengers owing to overcrowding, and regrets that while the Railway Board in England is always attentive to the complaints against railways all of which belong to companies, its sister Board here—a Government Institution—has done nothing so far to afford the public any evidence even of its existence. It is therefore necessary that a strong commission should be appointed to enquire into and report the shortcomings of the Indian Railways and the means by which they may be removed, considering that the Government of India has so much interest in Indian Railways.

HITAVARTA,
June 30th, 1912.

55. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th June writes:—

The behaviour of the Whites.

His Majesty the King-Emperor during his visit to this country proclaimed to the public that the Indians are citizens of the Empire, and not trampled down conquered subjects. His Majesty did not confine the message to words only, but gave ample evidence of his mind in deeds as well. The officials were also commanded to see that the people are treated well and that there should be good feeling between the Whites and Blacks. But it is to be regretted that the relation between them remains just as it was before the visit of the King-Emperor.

The public come into contact with the Whites, both official and non-official, generally in connection with railway and steamer travelling and police matters. We have dealt at length as regards the treatment of the people by the police several times before. We would, therefore, content ourselves, on this occasion, with the remark that the message of His Majesty the King-Emperor has had no effect on the police. We shall see now how the Indians are oppressed and disgraced by the Whites on railways and steamers. We shall show how the lowest of officials display inexcusable folly by disregarding the King-Emperor's commands and resorting to high-handedness and self-assertion. It is for Government of India to consider the consequences likely to follow from such a behaviour on the part of these officials.

The paper then deals with the inconveniences of third-class passengers who contribute the major portion of a railway's income. It is strange that so much criticism and agitation about the removal of these inconveniences have failed to produce any effect. The first inconvenience is due to overcrowding at road side railway stations if not at Howrah; the *Feringi* (Eurasian) railway employe always pushing in a number of passengers into a compartment which is already full, in spite of the protests of passengers seated therein. Sometimes, especially during the *Puja* holidays, this scene may be witnessed even at the Howrah railway station where bribe-taking also goes on at this time. The trouble of an intended traveller begins with the purchase of his tickets and admission to the platform. The weak and sickly find it impossible to purchase a ticket. Tickets cannot be had in time at Howrah through the kindness of the White lady booking clerks, and people have to suffer for hours from the crowd of other purchasers at the fences.

Then comes admission to the platform which is deferred till the last moment. Here, too, the entrance gates are partially opened and the half-bred ticket-checker admits one man at a time through the partly-opened passage after

examining his ticket. Even respectable men and ladies have to pass through this ordeal. Readers can imagine the difficulties of a respectable woman seeking admission with a crowd pressing her from behind, and the ticket-collector at the entrance of a narrow passage before staring at her. The Indians are accustomed to suffer, but the suffering of their women becomes intolerable to them. All the officials of the railways are Whites and they can make better arrangements if they like; but they consider it below their dignity to attend to the inconvenience of the Blacks, and this is the principal cause of the trouble. Another instance of high-handedness of railway officials is furnished by their altering the time-table without consulting the travelling public. The above complaints apply equally to steamer travelling, but fortunately the people have not to do so much with steamers. In fine, the object of His Majesty can be attained only if railway and police officials behave properly with the Indians, otherwise not.

(h)—General.

56. A correspondent of the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 28th June admires the courage of one Chaudhury Sheikh Karamat Hussain of Arrah in declining to accept the title of Khan Saheb which was conferred on him on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday, and says that tailors, opium-eaters and favourites of rich men are generally addressed by that title here. Addressing the Muhammadans, the writer tells them to remember that they still possess royal dignity, and the royal standards planted by them have not yet been rooted out. Why should they then run after tiny flags used in marriage processions?

STAR OF INDIA,
June 28th, 1912.

57. A correspondent to the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th June, calling himself "A well-wisher of the Ayurveda (the Indian system of medicine)," expresses gratification, and heartily thanks the Government at its having recognized the importance and excellence of the Ayurvedic system by creating the title of "Vaidyaratna," and conferring it, as a Birthday Honour, on the learned Kaviraj Yogindranath Sen of Calcutta.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 27th, 1912.

58. The *Kalgani* [Magura] of the 26th June, while recognizing that Dr. P. C. Ray's C.I.E. is a recognition of merit on the part of Government, cannot say that Indian opinion will be satisfied unless Dr. Ray is promoted to the Indian Education Service, to which his merits entitle him, but from which his race alone keeps him out.

KALYANI,
June 26th, 1912.

59. The *Purulia Darpan* [Purulia] of the 24th June thinks that a personal title of Raja is not sufficient honor for Raja Jyoti Pershad Singh Deo of Pachette, and that he should be made a Maharaja or a hereditary Raja.

PURULIA DARPAN,
June 24th, 1912.

60. Referring to the arrest and trial of the Khan of Hoti Mardan, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June quotes a paragraph from a pamphlet recently published by the Khan, in which he has given a pathetic description of the ill-treatment he received at the hands of the executive, and piteously appealed to the public to buy his estates in the North-West Frontier Province for whatever price they like to pay for them, for he does not want to live as an insulted and dishonoured man in a place where he used to command respect from everybody, and desires to settle in the Punjab as a common individual, so that his children may forget that their forefathers had any connection with the British Raj. About two months ago, Lord Ronaldshay brought the case of the Khan to the notice of the India Office, and the Under-Secretary promised to enquire into the matter. Subsequently, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, he said that the Government of India would give a full report on the case. This report has not yet been published.

SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1912.

61. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 27th June writes:—
The mangoes in the garden are finished. Monkey, what are you going to eat (now)? Alas, *swaraj*! You were the subject of our pleasant

NAYAK,
June 27th, 1912.

Lord Crewe and Provincial
autonomy.

dreams, like those occurring when one is intoxicated with *chandu*, (a preparation of opium.) What aspirations did not (we) beggars cherish? To think that beggars of the streets at night, wandering *fakirs* who pick up coppers crying out *muskil asan**, should demand self-government!

* Solution of difficulty.

To think that such men should demand liberty and *swaraj*. In order that he may so talk as to save his life and his honour in the eyes of the law, he wants a system of Government like that of the British colonies! Does it not excite laughter? Does not one feel inclined to mock and jeer? Yet black-hued as you are—so black that it seems that your God of death and the Englishman's God of death cannot be the same person—conquered subject race as you are, why do you cherish the impossible dream of securing the rights of the White ruling race? It is a wild expectation which cannot possibly be fulfilled.

A despatch was issued by the Government of India at the time of the transfer of the Capital to Delhi, in which it was written that the Viceroy of India would reign at Delhi as a *paramatman*,† he would not interfere with the work of any Provincial Government. The *jibbatmans*‡ of the provinces would carry on the government of their respective territories

† The universal soul.

‡ The individual souls.

according to their own likings. And the *paramatman* of a Viceroy from his seat on the Aravalli uplands at Delhi will simply go on surveying with his eyes open, casting glances all over India. If, on rare occasions, any oppression or lawlessness does occur in any province, and righteousness is violated, then will the *paramatman* Viceroy incarnate himself and remove this stain on righteousness. But our Babus seized on paragraph 3 of this despatch and set up a dance as exultant as that on the *Vijaya* day§. They began saying, "Well, now, we have won the day, we shall now obtain *swaraj*." Mr. Montagu,

§ The last day of the Durga Puja festival.

Under-Secretary of State for India, in order to have a little joke said: "Certainly so, if you are not going to obtain *swaraj*, who else is? You, the pampered darlings of the British Government may obtain *swaraj* like Canada, South Africa and Australia. After this the *Vijaya* dance of the Babus grew more

|| The full-moon night on which the swinging festival takes place.

exultant like that at the *Dolpurnima*||. Seeing that the unreasonable demand was passing the proper bounds, Lord Crewe at first administered a rebuff. That did not prove of avail. Now in the course of the final debate on the Government of India Bill, from his place in the House of Lords, Lord Crewe has spoken in straightforward and simple and direct language. Said His Lordship:—

"I say quite frankly, I see no future for India on those lines. I think the experiment is one that it is impossible to try. Consequently, it is my duty standing here as Secretary of State for India, to repudiate altogether that reading of the Despatch which implies anything of the kind, or that it is the hope or goal of His Majesty's Ministers or the present Government of India."

So we also must now say: The mangoes in the garden are now finished; what are you going to eat now, Monkey? All doubts are now removed and the waves of expectation of *sivaraj* and liberty come (now) to an end. Cool yourselves now and be patient. If our rulers talk straight like this, we feel safe, without anxiety. In this connection we also shall say a few straight words. In this country we did not create sedition; it was our present-day loyal Babus who did it. It was in giving publicity to their words that we got caught, and it is they who were really responsible. Had Messrs. Digby, Narojy and R. C. Dutt's writings and speeches not been published in this country, the exaggerated idea that the British Government is draining the wealth of India away would not have entered the brains of Indians. Deuskar's "*Deshar Katha*" was nothing but an abstract of these speeches and writings and of the Congress speeches made by Surendranath and others since 1886. Every so-called moderate has been speaking on the Congress platform till now of the drain on India, and yet save Lord Curzon nobody has felt called on to notice it. But as soon as those opinions began to be published in the *Hitavadi*, and the *Hitavadi* brought them out in book form and the *Sandhya* reproduced them in simple language, the seats of the rulers were shaken and they scented sedition. It was Dadabhai Naoroji

who first made public use of the word "swaraj" at a Calcutta Congress. It was Surendranath who hoisted the flag, so to speak, of Colonial Self-Government, and it was ourselves who got into trouble by trying to publish the sense of that word in Bengali so as to be understood by the people at large. Who is it that are creating an agitation for "swaraj" in connection with this despatch on the move to Delhi? It is your darling loyal Babus. And who are the people who would have strengthened this agitation? It is your beloved moderates.

We Hindus do not understand moderatism or extremism. We regard all politics as a barefaced swindle. What politics can a subject people have? In a country where plague and malaria are permanent, where 95 per cent. of the population are lean and reduced to skeletons by disease and poverty, for the

* A sort of Dead Sea apple.

people of such a country political rights are comparable to *Delhi laddoo*.* For ourselves we like to talk of society and religion and we want to re-establish the village life and the village homes. That is why we are reassured when we hear straight talk from the ruling race. Lord Crewe, by venturing to say this truth frankly, has saved us. Else, the Babus would have raised an agitation which would have gathered strength and we should have been compelled in time to join it for the sake of making a livelihood. At some inauspicious moment, we might have said something inadvertently which would ultimately have brought us to serious trouble, while all the time the men really responsible for the situation would have gone on enjoying the favour of the ruling powers. We are glad beyond measure at what Lord Crewe has said, and we thank him for it. He is going to be our saviour. May all prosperity be his!

But then the pity is the mangoes in the garden are finished; what will you eat (now), Monkey?

62. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 28th June writes as follows under the

Lord Crewe and Provincial autonomy.

heading "Autonomy or Foolery?"

All hope of autonomy is at an end. The Secretary of State for India himself has said that there is no future for India in this direction, and we bow to his decision with all submissiveness. But the minister is intoxicated with love for the Babus. He sees no fault in whatever they do. The Babus want to make India free like Canada and Australia. Although this desire is a revolutionary one, the minister smells no odium in it. He has said, "I cannot put the matter more forcibly. I do not complain that some men hold this ideal, which is a revolutionary one, though not in the odious sense of a desire to break up the British Empire; but I can only say that I hold it in no sense myself."

We ask, if India gets Self-Government like Canada, will any vestige of English authority be tolerated in the country? It is the tie of blood which has kept, and will still keep, for some time, the English Colonies united with England. But has India any blood-relationship with England? Do Indians view with pride their subjection to England? The whole thing hinges on sentiment, and not on any prudential considerations of gain or advantage.

Lord Crewe has not surely read our poet Dwijenlal Ray's song of "England-returned Indians". He does not know. "It is those few England-returned men who are the authors of the Congress and so forth in this country." Returning from England in the garb of *Sahabs* they make the people of the country forget their subject state. It is they who have made us forget that as a subject people we ought not to make any unreasonable demands, and it is because we have forgotten this that we are always so unhappy and discontented. If the agitation for Colonial autonomy which is being carried on by men like Gokhale, Sinha and Surendranath, reach the lower strata of society, will not discontent rear its head? He who hopes for the impossible always lives in dissatisfaction, and the men who induce the people of the country to hope for the impossible are the authors of that dissatisfaction.

The question of autonomy was raised by Lord Hardinge in his Despatch on the Delhi changes in which he wrote: "It is certain that in the course of time the just demands of Indians for a large share in the government of the country will have to be satisfied, and the question will be how the devolution of power can be conceded without impairing the supreme authority of the

NAYAK,
June 28th, 1912.

Governor-General in Council. The only possible solution of the difficulty would appear to be gradually to give the provinces a larger measure of Self-Government, until at last India would consist of a number of administrations, autonomous in all provincial affairs, with the Government of India above them all and possessing power to interfere in case of misgovernment, but ordinarily restricting their functions to matters of Imperial concern."

We understood this expression of gubernatorial opinion to mean that Provincial Governments should be invested with extensive powers according to the recommendations of the Decentralization Commission, that appeals to the Government of India should not lie in all cases, that Provincial Governments should be independent and self-contained and that Indians should not only be appointed in the public service but also be entrusted with administrative duties, if found competent. After Provincial Governments had been invested with powers to do whatever they pleased, educated Indians living under them might be entrusted with such administrative duties for which they might be found fit. This was the interpretation which we gave to the third paragraph of the Government of India's Despatch on the authority of John Bright. It may be said that neither Mr. Montagu nor the English and the Anglo-Indian Press, nor the community of England-returned Indians put this interpretation on the paragraph. But Mr. Montagu has plainly said that he can say anything he likes to his party to serve political ends. As regards the English Press, its purpose in giving a different interpretation to the paragraph was to find fault with the present ministry. The Anglo-Indian Press headed by the *Englishman* is never so happy as when it can find fault with Lord Hardinge. And the credulity of the Babu community leads them to believe in and make a great fuss at every sensational talk. Everyone, however, who has thought over the matter, is at one with us. The Government of India is not such a fool as to place the moon in the hands of dwarfs. A man of Lord Hardinge's extensive political experience is not likely to lay the axe at the root of the branch on which he sits.

Babu Surendranath Banerji has said that whatever Lord Crewe may say, he will lay down his life for autonomy and continue begging for it till the end of his days. If it does not come during his life-time, the cry, he says, will be taken up by succeeding generations. Whether in one generation or in seven generations or in forty-nine generations, the thing begged for must be obtained. Babu Surendranath is no doubt a Brahman and, consequently, a privileged beggar. But had he been a staunch Hindu, he would have said that he himself would secure his object by performing austerities and practising mendicancy for a crore of lives if one life would prove insufficient for it. Had he fully believed in the reincarnation of souls, he would not have made over the charge to succeeding generations.

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the public should withdraw their vote of thanks to Lord Hardinge, and tell his Excellency that he has deceived them with sweet enchanting words with the object of transferring the Capital to Delhi, and that they have now understood his chicanery and want to have the Capital back at Calcutta. The *Patrika*, however, ought to know that an elephant's teeth once they are out do not go in again—that what has been lost cannot be got back. Instead of blaming Lord Hardinge, it should praise him, for was such a deceitful and yet sweet-tongued flatterer ever before seen or heard of?

All this induces us to exclaim, Autonomy or Foolery! This autonomy will give rise to any amount of agitation, writing, speechification, loud crying and so forth. The Babus, whom Lord Crewe loves so much, will create a huge commotion in the educated society. Sinha of Bankipore has roared, Surendranath is preparing for an attack, Bhupendranath is showing his teeth, the *Patrika* is barking, the *Sanjivani* will weep and regret, and Gokhale will revolve plans in his mind. It will be a nice fun. This fun will not be seditious—it will not aggravate discontent nor interfere with the Government's system of administration. Praise be to Lord Crewe, he has proclaimed his assurance in this respect.

*The present Government translator Majendra Chandra Sastri.

Only if we say anything, there is the Shastri Mahashaya* to misunderstand it and translate it accordingly, so that we shall fall in danger. Our danger will increase the worth of the indulgence-

receiving Babus. The rulers will correspond with them. High posts will be heaped on them and many will acquire importance. Why should we then indulge in such foolery. Why should we do such a work as makes the doer liable to be called a monkey?

Lastly, the King-Emperor's words. His Imperial Majesty has told us to hope, and although we have no future, no hope for the future, yet we shall hope, hope as His Imperial Majesty's most devoted and obedient servants. We do not want autonomy, nor shall take any part in apish exhibitions. Still we shall hope—shall swim in the river of hope. "Hope is a river full of waves of anxiety".

63. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 27th June says:—

Lord Crewe and Provincial autonomy.

The happy dream is now over. Lord Crewe has now put off the mask. Our Babus have been many of them looking forward to obtaining *Swaraj*. They were dancing exultingly and madly at the prospect. Now Lord Crewe has struck them as with a thunderbolt. For ourselves, we entertained no hopes from the outset. We were rather frightened by the sweet tunes sung to captivate the Indian deer. The present plain language of Lord Crewe shows that our original idea was right. Plain, rough speech is preferable to raising false hopes. So we now feel that Lord Curzon was more worthy of respect. Is it Lord Curzon's attacks which have made Lord Crewe thus interpret the words in the Government of India's despatch.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 27th, 1912.

64. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June writes as follows:—

Ibid.

At last hopes have been destroyed, the hopes of those who were building castles in the air, who were dreaming dreams of self-Government in India, by relying on the words in the Government of India's Despatch. In the Debate on the third reading of the India Bill in the House of Lords, Lord Crewe has plainly said that it is impossible to introduce Self-Government in India. His Lordship has said,— "There is a certain political school in India of Indians altogether free from the taint of disloyalty who, while agreeing that India must remain under British rule, look forward to something approaching the Self-Government enjoyed by the Dominions. I say quite frankly that I see no future for India on these lines. I think the experiment is one it is impossible to try. Consequently it is my duty, standing here as Secretary of State for India, to repudiate altogether that reading of the Despatch which implies anything of the kind." What more is wanted? If even such plain speaking does not open the eyes of Babus to the futility of political agitation, they must really be very unfortunate. If instead of waiting vainly for impossibilities to happen, they now devote their energies to doing real service to the country in such connections as supply of water, prevention of untimely death, adulteration of food and so forth, it will be better for them as well as for the country.

B. BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

65. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June quotes the remark of Lord Crewe referred to in the above paragraph on the same subject and says:—

Ibid.

Whoever has read the Government of India's Despatch on the subject doubts whether Lord Crewe's interpretation of it is correct or not. As a matter of fact, he has been obliged to put forth this interpretation under pressure from Lord Curzon and others. For the last few years we have been repeatedly hearing that Self-Government will never be established in India. The necessity for making the Indians hear this has arisen since the time of Lord Morley. His Lordship said that it was not possible for him to put the moon into the hands of the Indians and that the furcoat of Canada was not suitable for India. Lord Crewe, therefore, has said nothing new. But the very fact that the matter is being repeatedly dinned into our ears, indicates a near possibility of the question of giving self-government to India being actually mooted. Lord Crewe thinks it his duty to fulfil our reasonable aspirations. If our reasonable aspirations are fulfilled it will become necessary to establish Self-Government in this country in course of time. No one can say for certain what will happen or will not happen in the field of politics. Lord Morley's settled fact has become unsettled. Whatever Lord Morley or Lord Crewe may say now, a day will surely come, a day is not far off, when Self-Government will be established in India, and that day will be considered a glorious day for England.

SANJIVANI,
June 27th, 1912.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
June 1st, 1912.

66. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st July writes:—
The expanded Legislative Councils point out the lines on which India's political rights are likely to expand in future. We shall one day have Colonial Self-Government. For the present, however, we must be content, as we are content, with what rights we have got. We have always been accustomed to be content with little, and so shall rejoice and cordially accept whatever liberties the British Raj will graciously accord to us. But at the same time we shall not cease to pray for more liberties.

One remark in conclusion. Hitherto we used to place implicit credence in the words of a minister. Henceforth we must regard them in a different light.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 28th, 1912.

67. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 28th June announces, under the head-line noted in the margin, Lord Crewe's statement, in the House of Lords, repudiating any intention on the part of the Government to grant provincial autonomy to India at any time, and then after giving the substance of the para of the despatch in which Lord Hardinge referred to it, observes:—

The language of the despatch is plain and needs no comment either of Mr. Montagu or Lord Crewe.

The interpretation of Lord Crewe is not correct, and we cannot admit that the statement was made under influence or pressure from the Conservatives who form the majority in the House because Liberals or Conservatives neither, as we know, are inclined to give Self-Government to India, both having equal self-interest in the matter. So long as India continues to be a dependency of the British Crown, the foreigners have their own way but no sooner she gets Self-Government all the advantages enjoyed by them now would be gone. This is a fact which no English politician can forget. To expect Self-Government from any political party in England, therefore, would be foolish.

Lord Morley has more than once ridiculed the idea in plain terms. Many of our countrymen compare India with Ireland and hope to obtain Self-Government with the Irish people, but they forget, Ireland is a White man's country and sends a number of her representatives to Parliament. Besides the Irish people know how to agitate in order to obtain Self-Government. The Indians are Black and have no representatives in Parliament and are the subjects of England. They are also quite ignorant of the method of carrying on an agitation. The Irish, on the other hand, are unlike the Indians, not the advocates of a begging policy.

The meaning of Lord Hardinge's despatch is quite clear but it entirely rests with Government to accept it or not. The interpretation of Lord Crewe can never be called correct. He may call black as white but we should not expect anything from any political party of England. Lords Morley and Crewe have put an end to the Indians' hopes. No Englishman is anxious to look for the day which Macaulay considered to be one of pride for England. Even the very idea of it passes a shudder through an Englishman. It would therefore, be hoping against hope that England would give Self-Government to India.

We are, however, glad to see that Lord Crewe has dispelled the cloud of our ignorance. Our countrymen do not know as yet how much the Irishmen suffered in order to get self-government. They do not even reflect on the suffering undergone by great men like Michael Davitt and others in the Dartmoor prison.

What is wanted is that we should always be repeating the sacred *Mantra* of self-reliance and rely upon our own strength for obtaining Self-Government, bearing in mind that the British Government would grant us Self-Government only when no alternative would be left to them. So we will have to obtain Self-Government by self-exertion, by which however we do not mean use of force, murder, etc. We shall clear our path to Self-Government by peaceful method of educating the people. As for Mr. Sinha's remarks that Lord Crewe's statement would increase discontent still more, it may be pointed out that if Lord Crewe had not made that statement the fire of discontent would have been smouldering for a time, only to burst into a flame later on.

68. Under the head-line, "Our duty," the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th June referring to the same subject, writes:—

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 29th, 1912.

Those who understand their duty would not sit still after they have come to know of Lord Crewe's announcement. Any one expecting to obtain Self-Government from Lord Crewe would be more fit to be an inmate of a Lunatic Asylum give than to remain outside it. It is not to the advantage of any political party to give us Self-Government. It is only when we shall become conscious as to who we are and what innate strength we possess, that we shall be able to improve our condition. The policy of begging and looking to Government for a boon would be of no avail. We must, therefore, educate ourselves first. There is no institution here which we could all freely join. The Congress spells only discord and hostility but we still stick to it.

Lord Hardinge pointed out the uselessness of the Congress to Sir W. Wedderburn and advised him to put an end to it, for the work done by it might now be done better in the Legislative Councils. What His Lordship meant was to change its method of working, but people did not understand him. It is only when party disputes would be set aside and country's good alone would be the aim of all, that the situation may improve to some extent. Without giving up the begging policy, self-respect would not be aroused in us and without awakening self-respect nothing could be achieved. Self-reliance is essential for awakening self-respect. Heaven helps those who help themselves, is one of the aphorisms of Rig-veda. The maxim is also to be found in the English language. No sooner we learn to do anything ourselves than our object is gained. We would, therefore, advise our countrymen to give up the whining tone of a beggar, rely on themselves, and have trust in God.

69. Reverting to the same subject the paper says, in its next issue, that it is necessary that the Congress should be so reformed as to be truly national and representative and that

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
June 30th, 1912.

Ibid. means should be adopted to enlighten the masses. In this connection the proposals of Sriyut Sridhar Rao Ketkar, M.A., PH.D., has its entire support. The paper is, with Mr. Ketkar, opposed to carrying on agitation in England, but it would have a vigilance committee to see justice done between man and man without any distinction of colour or creed, and have day and night schools in villages for the free education of children as well as adults.

70. Referring to the same subject the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st July, quoting the speech of Lord Crewe in the House of Lords, says that a lightning has at last

HINDI BANGAVASI,
July 1st, 1912.

Ibid. struck the castles in the air which were being built by both the Moderate and Extremist political parties about obtaining Colonial or absolute Self-Government. Lord Crewe has really done a service by disillusioning those parties who, therefore, should give up politics now and devote their energies to more profitable work, otherwise disappointment would ever be their lot.

71. The fact elicited in reply to the question of Sir J. Rees, alleged to be the sworn enemy of India, that there is really a proposal of compensating Mr. Clarke in the Mymensingh case, has caused pain and surprise to the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd July, and therefore it considers its duty to enter timely protest against this unjust and scandalous proposal.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 2nd, 1912.

Compensation to Mr. Clarke. The paper wants to know what damage he has suffered for which he is to be compensated. He has been receiving his pay and perhaps travelling expenses as well all along, and had not to pay the prosecuting expenses. If the wheel of promotion was clogged for some time owing to the case; it will now be run with accelerated speed. To compensate him therefore would be outshaming shame and wasting public money.

The paper therefore hopes that Lord Hardinge and Lord Carmichael would not do any such thing.

The really deserving of compensation are those who are prosecuted on doubtful allegations, made to suffer in jail for months and then acquitted. They generally become penniless after a long physical and mental suffering, and even after acquittal remain the object of surveillance by the police. During trial costly legal help is given to the prosecution, while the public refuses to help the accused for fear of Government. These unfortunate victims are

reduced to penury and sometimes put an end to their life even before the close of the trial. No Reechh (which means a bear and evidently used here for Sir J. D. Rees) ever interpellated Government about them; neither does any Anglo-Indian paper take up their question, nor does the Government consider the case of these poor, helpless, disgraced and socially outcasted fellows. Fair play requires that such men should be compensated, while to compensate an officer of Government for supposed damages is not only wrong but sinful.

The compensation given to Mr. Clarke would, besides, create an impression on the public mind that the Government is partial to her own servants, and people would not go to Court to seek redress for a wrong done to them by an official. Injustice would thus increase and give rise to discontent from which will result unrest. Government should therefore consider these points before paying anything to Mr. Clarke.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 1st, 1912.

72. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st July is surprised to hear that Mr. Clarke is to be compensated by Government. Compensated for what? He had not to bear the costs of the suits. And he certainly has not suffered any loss of prestige or honour. No compensation appears, therefore, to be due to him.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

73. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June is glad that the works in connection with the temporary Capital at Delhi will be cut down from their original scale. This is good, but public opinion demands the complete abandonment of the project of a temporary capital. Let the officers remain in Calcutta or at Simla till permanent offices and quarters are built at Delhi.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
HAZAR PATRIKA,
June 27th, 1912.

74. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 27th June writes that the scheme for a High Court at Patna has advanced towards fruition a step. The Government of India has asked the Bihar Government for its opinion on the subject. Sir Charles Bayley is sure to support it, as he supported a similar project for Eastern Bengal. But the Bengal and Assam Governments also should have been consulted, for their interests too are affected by the changes proposed. The idea that Bihar is to have a High Court because she has a separate Executive Government may support the creation of a separate Court for Assam as well, and Assam is farther from Calcutta than Orissa, Chota Nagpur and parts of Bihar. In 1905, when Eastern Bengal was partitioned, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce protested against the creation of a separate High Court and suggested the adoption of the "Circuit" system, if administration of justice on the spot was held absolutely necessary. Litigants will find it easier to come to Calcutta than to Patna,—at least litigants of Orissa, Chota Nagpur, and parts of Bihar. It is to be hoped that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce will take the lead in agitating against the change and that the eminent men all over Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur will join in the agitation.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

75. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June thinks that the location of the new High Court for Bihar at Patna will inconvenience litigants from Orissa. Moreover Patna is a very unhealthy place. So Ranchi should be the seat of the new High Court, as being both a central and healthy place.

DAILY NARAD,
June 25th, 1912.

76. Endorsing the views of the *Bharat Mitra* which it quotes at length, the *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 25th June says that none but a chartered High Court at Patna would do any good to the new Province.

STAR OF INDIA,
June 28th, 1912.

77. The *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 28th June says :—
Ibid. It is gratifying to learn that the India Government has been pleased to give a High Court to the new province, but it is not yet known whether it would be a chartered High Court. The Local Government had better ask for it, and the public as well as the local officers should also do the same, for a chartered High Court alone would be independent of the Executive.

TIPPERA GUIDE,
June 25th, 1912.

78. The *Tippera Guide* [Comilla] of the 25th June asks for the establishment of a Telegraph office at Nabinagar in Tippera, where there are already existing a Post Office, a High English School, the courts of two Munsiffs and a Outcherry belonging to the Maharaja of Tippera.

79. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June asks if the attention of

BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

An advertisement for telegraph apprentices.

Lord Carmichael has been drawn to an advertisement issued by Mr. Tangier, officiating Director of Telegraphs, Eastern Bengal and Assam, calling for applications for nine apprentice signallerships, in which it has been stated that none but Europeans and Eurasians need apply.

80. On the same subject the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 29th June remarks:—

JASOHAR,
June 29th, 1912.

Ibid.

This policy of exclusion of Indians from offices may be pursued by Englishmen with advantage to Indians. At the same time everybody knows that the King-Emperor and the Viceroy are opposed to this policy of recognizing colour-bar in the public service.

81. Referring to the general complaint in papers regarding the unfavourable attitude and reluctance of the Hindu Special

STAR OF INDIA,
June 28th, 1912.

Special Sub-Registrar of Chapra.

Sub-Registrar of Chapra to register deeds and documents executed in Urdu, the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 28th June enquires whether registering Urdu documents is a sin and why is it that the Registrar should have them written in Hindi only. The paper requests the authorities to look into this case soon, and transfer the Registrar to a place where there may be no Urdu-speaking Musalman.

82. A correspondent of the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June

MOSLEM HITASHI,
June 28th, 1912.

Alleged anti-muhammadanism among officials at Seriganj.

says that the Serajganj subdivision, which is bigger than even many districts, has a population of which nearly 80 per cent. are Musalmans. There are

14 Entrance schools, 30 Middle English schools, a large number of Upper Primary and Lower Primary schools and 140 Girls' schools within the subdivision, so that the light of education is steadily spreading among its Musalman inhabitants. It is ruled by a Civilian Subdivisional Officer, a Deputy Magistrate and a Sub-Deputy Magistrate. Formerly at least one of the two Deputies used to be a Musalman. But for the last two or three years both of them have been Hindus and, in their contact, the Civilian Subdivisional Officer also has developed pro-Hindus idea. There is no suitable officer through whom the poor Musalmans can bring their grievances to his knowledge. At present if they make any complaint to him, he does nothing without the consent of his Deputies, so that they are being oppressed and humiliated at every step. The present Deputy Magistrate is an inhabitant of the subdivision and has many relations in Serajganj town. It is but natural that he should be partial towards them. But the effect of such partiality falls heavily on poor Musalmans. One or two instances will suffice to illustrate this. The committee which was formed by the Subdivisional Officer to organize festivities for the celebration of Their Imperial Majesties' Coronation at Delhi contained only four Musalman members out of thirty-one, and no representation for change of this arrangement was of any avail, although there was no want of able Musalmans fit to be members. Next, when the fund raised was divided for holding different entertainments, it was arranged to spend a large sum of money, which afterwards turned out to be as much as Rs. 700, for holding theatrical, *jatra* and other performances in the local *Kali* temple. The few Musalman members of the committee submitted that the Musalman public wanted to hold an entertainment according to their own religion, but to no effect. At last when the Musalman subscribers to the fund made an application in the matter, only Rs. 50 was granted to them. Again, out of six nominated members of the Serajganj Municipality five always used to be Musalmans. But this year the Subdivisional Officer has sent his recommendations to the Government for the nomination of four Hindus and two Musalmans, and this in spite of the fact that there is no want of eligible Musalmans who have served on the Municipal Board for many years as Commissioners and as Vice-Chairman. Is this an effect of the modification of the Partition of Bengal? Munshi Muhammad Mahrulla, an extremely loyal Musulman and a leader of the local Musalmans community, has been a Commissioner of the Municipality for nine years. Abdul Latif Khan, a well known Mukhtear and Musalman leader, has been a Commissioner for six years within which period he was Vice-Chairman for three years. Abdul Latiff, a pleader, was Vice-Chairman during the last term. It is inconceivable how, in spite of the existence

of these and other able and competent Musalmans, the Subdivisional Officer has thought fit to recommend only two Musalmans for nomination.

The attention of the Government is drawn to the above complaint and the authorities are prayed to give Serajganj a Musalman Deputy Magistrate through whom the Musalmans of the subdivision may communicate their grievances to the Subdivisional Officer and the Government.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

83. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June points out that many errors of printing have crept into the list of candidates who have passed the sanskrit title examinations appearing in the *Calcutta Gazette*. If such printing mistakes do not occur in the B. A. or I. A. or Matriculation lists, why should they occur in this one either? We hope the matter will attract the notice of the authorities.

Printing mistakes in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

CHARU MIHIR,
June 25th, 1912.

84. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 25th June, writes that the argument used against the partition of Bengal apply, on a smaller scale, against the partition of Mymensingh. The present close relations subsisting between the inhabitants of the different subdivisions will cease, and the force of public opinion will be weakened. These evils will be intensified if the district is split up in time into three new districts, as Government intends doing—Tangail and Jamalpore being made into a new district forthwith, and the rest of Mymensingh being again split up into two districts after a time. Government in these days does nothing without consulting public opinion. Why is that policy being departed from in the present instance? Administrative efficiency does not make the splitting up of the district absolutely necessary. That can be secured by promoting railway communication. Let Lord Carmichael, therefore, drop the proposal of partitioning Mymensingh.

The partition of Mymensingh.

SAMAY,
June 28th, 1912.

85. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, says that the Government ought not to partition the Mymensingh district against the wishes of its inhabitants. The purpose for which it has been proposed to make the partition, can be served by some other means.

Ibid.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

86. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, protests against the policy of partitioning Mymensingh. Administrative efficiency, which is the ground put forward in justification, can be secured by improved communications between the outlying areas and the headquarters town. If Lord Carmichael accepts public opinion in the matter, he will drop this scheme.

Ibid.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

87. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June, praises Sir A. Earle, for his recent address while opening the Curzon Hall at Gauhati in reply to an address from the Assam Association. His speech is such as people expect to hear from a popular ruler, but unhappily in this country, such is the ill luck of the people that most officials do not try to please people even by speaking words of hope like these.

Sir A. Earle praised.

NAYAK,
July 3rd 1912.

88. Welcoming Lord Carmichael to Calcutta, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 3rd July writes as follows:—
Welcome to Lord Carmichael.
Come, our saviour, and stay amongst us as the dispeller of our fears. Let us see you to our hearts' content. By the ordinance of fate we are ever miserable and by the will of Providence you are the ruler of the destinies of this ever-miserable people. So long as fate will be against us we shall continue to suffer, and you have not the power to remove the sufferings thus caused to us. When our *Karma* will be worked out and personal effort, independent of fate, will manifest itself amongst us, then all our sufferings will end of themselves. We are highly gratified that now you are trying to mitigate our sufferings to a certain extent by applying the balm of sympathy. You are the representative of our sovereign, the representative of a fortunate world-conquering people. Come and sit on the throne of the Bengali's heart. We want not kingdoms, we want not to be kings, we want not the privileges of the ruling race. We want a safe and secure shelter and a healthy body. We want the cool shade of the undecaying tree of our religion and society. We want to live and keep alive the things which our forefathers have handed down to us. You are our ruler, main-tainer. May you fulfil this desire on our part.

In spite of all our sufferings, we praise the education and ideas of your people, feel ourselves glorified in your glory, and always bear sentiments which are yours in reality. Have you seen so much love, so much self-resignation, such offering of the self, without hope of return anywhere else? Come and live in the chief city of the Bengalis, full of sentiment and sweet feeling. Let us only see you. There is such a virtue in the climate of this country, and so unfortunate are we, that whoever has come here has turned a hard-hearted despot. You alone seem to be a soft, sympathetic and benevolent ruler. Such as you are we have never had before—our ears have never before heard such sweet words as you speak. That is why we say, come, O friend, leader of the country, supporter of the people, saviour of the people's honour, religion and society, affectionate and honest ruler! Come, with a heart sympathetic in our sorrows; come, as the best of men, such as we like. Ten lakhs of men and women in Calcutta will see you to their hearts' content. The love you bear for the people is such as they have never tasted before, and it is exquisite. May you be victorious! May your efforts be successful!

89. "S K. M. M. D." in the course of an open letter to Lord Carmichael published in the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 22nd June, writes that the history of the late unrest shows that discontent has invariably been nipped in the bud, wherever the local officials showed sound judgment in the selection of advisers. A recent High Court judgment has disclosed how a District Magistrate wrongly relied on advice given by his subordinates. The idea that Indians are a sort of grown-up children, should be discarded. Let the new Governor impress on his officials the usefulness of being in touch with real local public feeling on any question. Let these officials come in contact with the real leaders of the people. Let them be accessible to all, and every one. This virtue of accessibility is the one most highly prized by Orientals in their rulers. With a man so richly deserving of praise as Mr. Gourlay as his Private Secretary, His Excellency himself should have no difficulty in coming across the right class of exponents of Indian public opinion.

90. In connection with His Excellency's agreeing to visit the Calcutta Club, the *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 25th June notices that Lord Carmichael is growing popular with the residents of Bengal.

KHULNAVASI
June 22nd, 1912.

DAILY NARAD.
June 25th, 1912.

III.—LEGISLATION.

91. Referring to the proposal to amend the Calcutta Municipal Act, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th June writes as follows:—

Amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act.

In the amended Act, provision should be made for giving real self-government to Calcutta. At present half of the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality are nominated, so that there is very little of self-government in it. Provisions should be made for making the number of elected Commissioners 50 and that of nominated Commissioners 25, placing the General Committee and Chairman completely under the power of the municipality, and appointing non-officials as Chairmen. The general committee, being merely a servant of the municipality, it should consist of representatives of elected Commissioners. In fact, we propose that the constitution of the Calcutta Municipality should be similar to that of mufassal municipalities. Of course, we hope for a time when all the Commissioners of the municipality will be elected. But for the present, the modest proposal made by us will, if carried out, give Calcutta self-government to a certain extent.

The people of this country have acquired competence for self-government. Calcutta is the most enlightened place in Bengal. Many of the citizens are willing to give the municipality their disinterested service, and the representatives of the rate-payers are able to manage themselves, their own municipal affairs. If the Act is amended according to the desire of the public, many great men in the city, who have long remained aloof from the municipality,

SANJIVANI.
June 27th, 1912.

will rejoin it and make the corporation far more powerful and efficient than it is now.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BANGAVASI,
June 29th, 1912.

92. Referring to the account published in the *Star* newspaper of Cuttack, of the arrangements which have been made by the Government for the administration of the Mourbhanj State, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th June says:—

If what the *Star* says is true, the State is passing through a wholesale change since the death of its late ruler. What is the cause of this change?

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

93. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June refers to the impending retirement of the Bengali Dewan and Civil Judge of Mourbhanj as facts proving that, under Civilian rule, things will not proceed very happily in the State. This idea is strengthened by the fact that the Maharani is to have no share in the management of affairs.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

TIRHUT SAMACHAR,
June 27th, 1912.

94. A correspondent of the *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 27th June writes to that paper to condemn the views of those who held that the Bengalis should not be given any appointments in Bihar, and says that being Indians they are brothers and should enjoy the privilege due to them as such.

HITAVADI,
June 28th, 1912.

95. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th June writes that the King-Emperor during his recent visit to India sought to impress Indians with the idea that His Majesty makes no distinction between them and his British subjects. But there is a class of low-class Whites in this country, who lose no opportunity, by their rash and arrogant conduct, of driving home to the minds of the Indian his position of inferiority. To give examples: There is constant overcrowding in the third class carriages, specially in the trains making long journeys to the cities of Upper India. Ten is the regulation number for each compartment, but 15 or 16 are often thrust in by some officers. Then, again, the sufferings which passengers have to undergo at Howrah Station at the entrances to the platforms, whence the trains for the far west or far the south start, are indescribable. The gate leading to the platform is kept slightly ajar and a European ticket-checker stands on duty there. Each man or woman (however respectable) has his or her ticket examined and is then allowed to pass in. There is thus an enormous crowd pressing for admission through a narrow gate, and in this crowd a number of respectable females suffer no end of harassments. The Railway officers stand by in utter indifference, and this indifference is not calculated to inspire the Indian with love for the European.

Then, again the timing of trains is often changed, in utter disregard of the comforts of the passengers. The passengers, specially the daily passengers, may complain but no heed is paid thereto by the Railway authorities. Lord Carmichael knows by personal experience what the sufferings are of third class passengers, so we need not dilate on them.

On steamers, too, Indians continue suffering oppression at the hands of Europeans. On pontoons leading to steamers, there are separate passageways provided for Indians and for Europeans. In places reserved for Indians, the richest Indian has to rub shoulders with the dirtiest coolie, but he is not to go to the place reserved for *topawallas*, which may be used by *topawal* as only, however poor. These are distinctions which constantly remind Indians that they are a conquered race. To those who seek to promote good feeling between the races, we commend these facts. So long as low class Whites continue treating Indians like this, no amount of cordiality towards Indian noblemen on the part of Magistrates or Secretaries will improve the situation.

96. The *Birbhum Varta* [Suri] of the 20th June writes that the

"The Indian's hope:"

basis of the present India-wide demand for self-government is strictly economical. All the hope of the Indians will be satisfied and all agitation among them will cease, when they succeed in removing the prevailing scarcity of food and the present poverty of the country. Government failed at the outset to recognize that the late agitation of 5 or 6 years back had an economic basis, and it regarded it as a manifestation of popular excitement and tried to put it down, and thus gradually created discontent in the minds of its subjects.

BIRBHUM VARTA,
June 20th, 1912.

97. Comparing conditions in India 50 years back with the present, the *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 26th June, finds

Past and present of India.

deterioration all along the line except education which, too, is not of any great use, being confined to qualifying its recipients for Government employ, law or medicine.

DAILY NARAD,
June 26th, 1912.

URIYA PAPERS.

98. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 22nd June quotes from the

Necessity for Police reform.

Bihari of the 14th June the facts of a case of alleged Police torture, in which a man suspected of theft in the jurisdiction of the Madhuban Thana was put to death by two Police constables while attempting to extort from him illegal gratification, but refrains from making any comments on those facts as the case is *sub judice*. The editor avails himself of this opportunity to make some general observations on the conduct of investigating Police officers and constables, with a view to impress on Government the necessity for Police reform. The editor concludes his article with the following remarks:—

UTKAL DIPIKA,
June 22nd, 1912.

"The importance of the function dedicated to the Police renders reform absolutely necessary. The necessity for reform is admitted by Government, but the measures adopted are unsuitable, and sometimes calculated to increase the evil. The remedy for the removal of the present pernicious malpractices of the policemen lies, to some extent, with the people. The ignorant millions have not correct notions of the powers and function of the Policeman. They believe that the malpractices of the investigating officer have the sanction of law and the countenance of his superiors. A dissemination of the knowledge that the policeman is a public servant, who draws his salary from the public revenues, whose services are entertained to protect the people against any invasion on their rights of life, limb, liberty and property, a correct knowledge of the legitimate function of an investigating officer and the right of the people to expose and oppose, if necessary by an exercise of the right of self defence, is the only remedy for this evil. It is not possible to put a stop to this evil without educating the people on their rights. Let the illiterate mass but once understand that their conduct in coming to the rescue of a man subjected to torture is equally justifiable whether the operator is a policeman or a dacoit, and the policeman will be constrained to abandon his malpractices. It is difficult to understand why a dacoit who tortures a traveller to give up a few rupees in his possession should be despised and shunned, while the Police officer who tortures a man for getting up false evidence should be treated as a respectable member of society. Society should point its finger of scorn against the man."

99. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 22nd June states that a monster

Meeting for founding Political Associations in Cuttack.

meeting was held on the 13th instant on the Mahipal Hat Maidan at Kendrapara in the Cuttack district under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., with the object of establishing at Kendrapara a political association which is to be a branch of the Central Political Association to be established at the Cuttack Town. A similar meeting was also held at village Mahanga in the Cuttack district in the premises of Babu Jagamohan Jala, the Panchayet President of the local union, and the aims and objects of the proposed Central Political Association of Cuttack were explained to, and appreciated by, the rural people assembled therein.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
June 22nd, 1912.

UTKALDIPIKA.
June 22nd, 1912.

100. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 22nd June strongly objects to the foundation of a separate High Court for the Province of Bihar and Orissa, and suggests that, in case the Government think it desirable to found one, it should be located at Ranchi instead of Patna. The editor calls upon the Political Associations of Orissa, as well as the people of different districts, to hold meetings protesting against such a measure before the coming visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Orissa.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI.
June 15th, 1912.

101. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 15th June is at one with the *Pioneer* in holding that there is no need of importing common salt from foreign countries such as England, Germany, Spain, and Aden, for such importation means a loss of 86 lakhs of rupees per annum to India, which can easily manufacture this article in sufficient quality for the consumption of her people.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
June 17th, 1912.

102. In an English article headed "Cultivation and Irrigation," the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 17th June observes that one crying need of Orissa, especially of the Balasore district, is irrigation. The people of Orissa cannot grow varieties of crops for want of water. "Especially, the district of Balasore is a one-cropped district and her pecuniary condition is sadly poor." In this district there is only a part of a canal, the water of which is saline and completely unfit for answering the purposes of irrigation. "Scarcity or rather famine of a moderate type has taken its permanent abode in this district.

Railway has done nothing to combat scarcity." It carries passengers, takes away the products of Orissa and "in return brings scarcity and ruin to her. Had a canal been sunk in place of a railway line, it would serve both the purposes—trade and irrigation. However, one canal may be sunk from the Balang to the Salindi and water may be supplied to it from the said two rivers if two anicuts are erected across them." In conclusion the editor humbly invites the attention of Government to this important matter.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
June 19th, 1912.

103. An anonymous correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 19th June complains generally of the conduct of the Presidents of village chaukidari panchayets of Orissa, and gives specific instances of irregularity and injustice in the assessment of chaukidari tax in Circle No. 1 of the Balasore district. The writer prays Government for a sifting enquiry into this matter.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 6th July 1912.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 6th July 1912.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
List of native-owned English newspapers received and dealt with by the Bengal Special Department	401	(g)— <i>Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation—</i>	
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		The Narainganj Steamer Service ...	407
Nil.		The River Mour ...	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		A Railway Incident ...	ib.
(a)— <i>Police—</i>		Punjabi high-handedness ...	408
Foot passengers and Calcutta streets ...	403	The Eden Canal ...	ib.
Ditto ...	ib.		
(b)— <i>Working of the Courts—</i>		(h)— <i>General—</i>	
The Bihar High Court ...	403	His Excellency The Governor's Visit to Dacca ...	408
The High Court ...	ib.	The Governor's first visit to East Bengal ...	ib.
Compensation for Mr. Clarke ...	ib.	Provincial autonomy ...	409
Ditto ...	404	Ditto ...	ib.
The Jubilee of the High Court ...	ib.	Ditto ...	ib.
Ditto ...	ib.	Ditto ...	410
Ditto ...	ib.	Ditto ...	ib.
Ditto ...	405	Ditto ...	ib.
Sir John Rees and the Indian Courts ...	ib.	Ditto ...	411
Appeals to the High Court ...	ib.	Ditto ...	ib.
Babu Rajendra Narayan Singh ...	ib.	Director of Agriculture Office ...	ib.
The Mymensingh Bar Library ...	406	The Partition of Mymensingh ...	ib.
Lahore Shooting case ...	ib.	Ditto ...	ib.
		Ditto ...	412
(c)— <i>Jails—</i>		Ditto ...	ib.
Nil.		Administration of East Bengal ...	ib.
(d)— <i>Education—</i>		Diplomacy ...	ib.
College Square ...	406	The Provincial Forest Service ...	ib.
		The Kabulis ...	413
(e)— <i>Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—</i>		Eurasian regiments ...	ib.
The Chandpur Municipality ...	406	Is India progressing in the right Direction? ...	ib.
The District Board of Hooghly ...	ib.	The New Public Service Commission ...	ib.
The Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners, Midnapore ...	ib.		
Ditto ... ditto ...	407	III.—LEGISLATION.	
Local Self-Government ...	ib.	Scramble for Council Seats ...	414
(f)— <i>Questions affecting the land—</i>		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
Nil.		Nil.	
		V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
		Nil.	
		VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
		Mr. Montagu and the Muhammadans ...	414
		Discovery of a Copperplate Inscription ...	415

**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPARTMENT.**

[As it stood on 1st January 1912.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4*	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
5	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
6	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
7	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Noreish Chandra Sarbadhikari and Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,000
8	"Muselman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Bayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon.), age 30 years.	2,500
12	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Pryo Nath Sen	...
13	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....

* Has not been published for the last six months, and most probably it will not be published again.

PART II OF THE WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the List of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st June 1912.

No	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
New	"Worlds Messenger" ...	No. 18, Kali Prasad Chakraborty's Street.	Monthly (English.)	Raghu Probir Mitra (Hindu), age 22 years.	100 copies.
Do.	"Current Indian News" ...	No. 1-1, College Square, East.	Monthly (English.)	Monindra Nath Mitter and Brothers (Kayastha), age 32 years.	Ditto.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1084. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* strongly protests against one of the rules which the Commissioner of Police proposes to bring into force for regulating traffic in Calcutta and its suburbs. The leading men in Calcutta, the journal affirms, should lose no time in arranging for a public meeting before the Governor, who is expected to reach Calcutta to-morrow, and leaves here for Eastern Bengal. The journal's suggestion to the Police Commissioner is to withdraw the notification which is bound to remain either a dead-letter or be a source of dire oppression to the people.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st July 1912.

1085. With regard to the same notification, the *Bengalee* writes:—
"Protests ought to go forth from every part of the city against a rule which cannot but prove a source of great hardship and inconvenience to the bulk of its population."

BENGALUR,
2nd July 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

1086. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes as follows on the proposed Bihar High Court: "The Hon'ble Judges of the Calcutta High Court, as the custodians of the liberties of the Indian subjects of His Majesty, should, we submit, insist on a better guarantee for the maintenance of their 'high status' than what is offered in the Government letter, should it be determined to constitute a new High Court at Patna. No gift of the British rulers has rendered their administration so popular in this country as the institution of a model High Court like that of Bengal; so, in the interests of both the people and the governing authorities, the prestige of that tribunal should never be allowed to be lowered. The Bar will then necessarily deteriorate, and its fearless independence gradually disappear. The pay of the Chief Justice will also be reduced and only an ordinary English lawyer can be expected to accept the now-much-coveted Chiefship of the first judicial tribunal in India. A pucca guarantee in unequivocal terms should, therefore, be given that not a jot of the status and prestige of the premier High Court will be taken away in the event of the establishment of a High Court for Bihar."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th June 1912.

1087. The *Bengalee* brings to notice that a mischievous agitation against the High Court and chiefly against the Barrister Judges of that Court has been started in England. These agitators, the paper comments, forget the great service which the High Court of Calcutta has, within the last four or five years, rendered to the cause of Indian pacification. If to-day the unrest has largely been deprived of its objectionable elements and the country is rapidly returning to its normal condition, the result is largely due to the decisions of the High Court in many of those cases which excited wide spread interest. While the unrest was at its height, the people wistfully looked to the High Court for protection and their trust was not misplaced. The High Court was thus the first great instrument of pacification, and the work has been consummated by the beneficence of the Royal Visit and the great boon of the modification of the partition.

BENGALUR,
29th June 1912.

1088. The *Bengalee* comments on the suggestion that compensation should be given to Mr. Clarke in the Mymensingh case. Such a compensation would mean a reflection upon the High Court, and that is why Sir John Rees is so anxious that it should be granted. Popular confidence in the administration of justice is the strongest bulwark of States and Governments; and it would be an act of madness, of which the journal believes the present Government of India to be altogether incapable to do anything which might shake this confidence. Far be it from the *Bengalee* to suggest that any action which the executive

BENGALUR,
30th June 1912.

Government might take would tend, in any manner or degree, to impair the confidence which the High Courts inspire among the more thoughtful of our countrymen. But the masses of the people in India, as in other countries, are bound to be affected, to some extent at least, by the attitude of the executive Government; and it is of the utmost importance that in any action that the Government of India might take, they should have in view the probable effect of such action upon the minds of the masses. And apart from this most important aspect of the question, one would like very much to know where the question of compensation comes in at all in this case. What loss has Mr. Clarke suffered that he should be compensated? The cost of the case has throughout been borne by the Government. Mr. Clarke has regularly drawn his pay; and his promotion has in no way been interfered with by reason of this case. What earthly reason, then, is there for compensating Mr. Clarke?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd July 1912.

1089. On this subject the *Anrita Bazar Patrika* writes: "If the Government grant compensation to successful accused official, how can it refuse the same to those innocent men who are hauled up by the police and then discharged by the Magistrate, or convicted by the Magistrate and then acquitted by the Sessions Judge, or sent to jail by the Sessions Judge and then released by the High Court without committing gross injustice and jeopardising its reputation for impartiality? Indeed, their claims to compensation on the ground of justice and equity are greater than those of the official defendant, as unlike the latter, they have to ruin themselves by meeting the cost of their defence from their own pocket in a fight which is practically one between a giant and a dwarf. We are sure that if compensation is granted to Mr. Clarke, hundreds of men, specially the so-called political offenders, who have been acquitted by the highest Court in the land will flood the Government with petitions for suitable compensation for the grave injury inflicted on them by the executive. Is Lord Hardinge prepared to accede to their prayer? If so, we have no objection to the proposed compensation to Mr. Clarke, though we do not know for what injury he should be compensated."

BENGALUR,
30th June 1912.

1090. Referring to the Jubilee of the High Court, on the 1st July 1912, the *Bengalee* remarks: "For fifty years, it has been the great bulwark of the State and the palladium of the people's rights. It is no exaggeration to say that no institution in the land has commanded in such an unstinted measure the confidence, the esteem and the gratitude of the people. If the day of the Jubilee were more widely known, there would have been demonstrations all over the country, expressive of our unabated confidence in the High Court. If the agitation against the High Court continues, it will perhaps be necessary for the popular voice to make itself heard in unmistakable terms; and then Sir John Rees and his friends will have some idea of what the people think of the High Court."

INDIAN MIRROR,
2nd July 1912.

1091. On the same subject the *Indian Mirror* writes: "The High Court, in particular, fulfils a noble mission. Impartial and even-handed justice has been its distinguishing badge. Instances may be cited by scores where His Majesty's High Court has redressed the wrongs of the oppressed and asserted the just rights of the poor. No wonder it is venerated as the palladium of justice—the bulwark of popular liberties. It is said truly that British rule is founded on the eternal principles of justice and righteousness, as exemplified in its admirable system of law and the equally admirable manner in which it is administered."

"In the galaxy of the eminent Judges of the Calcutta High Court, no name will be remembered by posterity with such veneration and affection as that of Sir Lawrence Jenkins. He has raised the High Court a hundred-fold in popular estimation by his strong and unflinching independence, by his magnificent bearing, and by his lofty sympathy with the people. The greatest of his services consists in giving peace to Bengal. It is a service for which he will rank among the greatest of administrators and benefactors."

HERALD
2nd July 1912.

1092. In the course of a eulogy on the High Court, on the occasion of its Jubilee, the *Herald* writes: "The combination of the executive and the judicial functions in the same persons has been one of the blots of the British Administration and responsible for much of its unpopularity. The mischievous effects of the

combination have, however, been greatly neutralized in cases when the parties were fortunate enough to carry their cases up to the High Court."

1093. On the same subject the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes: "One can thus see that the proposed tiny High Court of Bihar will run the risk of coming under the influence of a strong executive. Not that the learned Judges, at least such of them as are Barristers, will not resist, or at least resent, any such influence. Indeed, they will never knowingly allow themselves to be executed, if we may use the expression. But there is such a thing as unconscious yielding to a superior force; and the chances are they will never be a match for the powerful executive if the latter seek to lord it over them in earnest. And woe to the people of Bihar if a catastrophe of this kind overtakes them! Such a thing, however, would not be possible if they remain under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court."

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
3rd July 1913.

1094. Referring to a question put by Sir John Rees in the House of Commons in connection with the judgments of the Indian courts, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes: "We fail to see why this crusade should be waged against the High Court. If it be the object of Mr. Rees and of those whom he represents to lower the High Court in the estimation of the people, we can only say that such attempts are bound to fail. If it be their object to raise a hue and cry and get up an agitation with a view to curtail the independence of the highest judicial tribunal in the land, we are afraid the whole country from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin will resent it. The Government knows quite well the folly of such insidious suggestions."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
1st June 1913.

1095. The *Indian Empire* writes: "The power vested and exercised by the Local Governments to appeal to the High Courts in case of acquittal or infliction of inadequate punishments by the lower courts smells a bit of over-zeal. Where a gross miscarriage of justice had occurred and for ends of justice, the offenders should be brought to book, we welcome such steps being taken by the Executive. An 'exemplary' punishment in each case does not conduce to the betterment of the community for whose benefit such actions are taken. Here is a case in point. One Babu Shama Charan, a well-known pleader of Shajehanpore, and two others, had been convicted for forging court records and had been awarded one day's imprisonment and to fines of Rs. 3,000, Rs. 500 and Rs. 100 each. The Local Government being dissatisfied with the decision had applied to the High Court for enhancement of the sentence. We want to know what greater sentences would be needed to a member of the honourable profession, who had hitherto been respected and honoured, to become branded a forger, proclaimed a convict, a jail-bird, mulcted to the tune of Rs. 3,000, to be turned out from Bar being a disgrace to the profession, considered an unworthy member of the community he belongs to, and last though not the least, incapable to hold any Government service in any capacity. Is not the punishment awarded enough if considered from the dire consequences to follow in its train? We venture to deprecate such steps by the responsible law officers of the Government. What difference does it make whether the man is incarcerated a day or for a year or a couple of years when the object of the same is attained by sending a member of an honourable calling to jail, though for twenty-four hours only?"

INDIAN EMPIRE,
2nd July 1913.

1096. Referring to the allegations embodied in the petition of Babu Rajendra Narayan Singh, a big zamindar of Bhagalpur, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"It is to be regretted that so soon after the re-partition of Bengal such cases are coming from the new province before the High Court in rapid succession. Within a month we had the unpleasant duty of recording no less than three such cases in which big local zamindars had to seek protection from the alleged undue interference of the local authorities. It strikes us, however, that some of the allegations made by Bihar zamindars are such as may more efficiently be dealt with by a departmental inquiry than by the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court in the interests of all parties concerned. Indeed, such an inquiry would give Mr. Hammond a better opportunity to explain his conduct. That being so, will Sir Charles Bayley be pleased to call for a report on such

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
2nd July 1913.

incidents noticed in the petition, as can be cleared better by a departmental inquiry than a judicial trial?"

HINDOO PATRIOT,
3rd July 1912.

1097. Referring to the letter of Mr. J. D. Cargill, District and Sessions Judge, Mymensingh, to the Secretary, Mymensingh Bar Library concerning bribery in the local Civil

Courts, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"We are thankful to Mr. Cargill for his earnest desire to remove abuses which unhappily prevail not only in the courts of Mymensingh, but in almost all courts and offices in the province. But we think the remedy lies not in the Bar Library but elsewhere. It is notorious that clerks in the courts and offices all over the country are very poorly paid, and unless and until this state of things is improved, it is idle to expect any improvement in the moral tone of the ministerial service."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
4th July 1912.

1098. Reverting to the Lahore shooting case in which Private Peakett was accused of having shot one Natha, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that if the result of the

Lahore Shooting Case. - trial has caused public surprise, a perusal of the report will only go to heighten that feeling. "Could any one disbelieve that an unfortunate man was shot down by the soldier? Granting that the accused acted in self-defence; but what justification had they to bring about this quarrel by entering a village and killing a dog belonging to a villager when they are ordered to confine their operations within the limits of the cantonment? Such incidents are certainly not calculated to make British rule popular with the mass of the Indian population."

(d)—Education.

BHUGALLEN,
25th June 1912.

1099. The *Bengalee* vigorously protests against the proposal to fill up the College Square tank and construct hostels for students on all sides of it. Anxious as the journal

is to have the hostels, plenty of places could be found elsewhere for these hostels, and it would prefer having the square intact. If the authorities are in earnest, it will not be difficult for them to secure suitable sites for the purpose.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

HERALD,
28th June 1912.

1100. The Chandpur correspondent of the *Herald* writes:—"It is a hard lot of the rate-payer that they get very little benefit from the Municipality though the rate of the tax paid by them is an exorbitant one. The Municipality has got an annual income of about Rs. 40,000, which is being spent in the construction and repairing of roads without having anything of permanent utility. Large sums of money are being spent every year for the aforesaid purposes and of filling up of the ditches which are not of so much importance as other pressing necessities; and in these works, too, money is being largely spent. In some cases we understand the works of the contractors have not even been checked."

1101. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"The story told in the memorial of some members of the District Board of Hooghly, and also in that of Babu Akhil Chandra Chatterjee, a Civil Engineer of the Roorkee College, submitted to His Excellency the Governor, shows that there is very little of Self-Government, but much of official high-handedness in the so-called Local Self-Governing Body, called the District Board. The matter, we have no doubt, will receive the serious consideration of the Governor. For, we cannot afford to see the District Boards wholly officialised in this fashion, as they are one of the so-called independent constituencies we have got for returning representative members to the Council."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd July 1912.

1102. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* brings to notice that at the meeting held at Midnapore for election, Babu Upendra Nath Maiti, Pleader-commissioner, disclosed the fact that he was told by the Additional Magistrate

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd July 1912.

The Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners, Midnapore.

that if the Raja was elected, he would report against the election and get it vetoed. As a result, another day has been fixed for the election. It has been shown by a concrete instance how the elected members of the District Board of Hooghly were treated by the Official Chairman in the matter of selecting their District Engineer. The paper hears that the independent members of the Murshidabad District Board were also treated in the same fashion when a European was appointed as District Engineer of the Board. And now comes the Midnapore incident to show how even elected Municipal Commissioners have not the liberty to elect their own Chairman! "Verily we are 'progressing in the right direction' as the *ex*-Governor Lord Harris has it."

1103. On the same subject the *Bengalee* asserts that it has not the least doubt that the Government of Lord Carmichael who, the journal believes, is an ardent advocate of Local Self-Government, will not permit any interference with the election of the Chairman, specially as the case is one which clearly does not call for such interference. It is further to be borne in mind that the Government will find themselves in a very awkward situation if the Commissioners will insist upon electing the Raja, even after his election has been vetoed? The Commissioners will be within their rights in re-electing the Raja as often as his election is vetoed. If they do so, they will be only following distinguished English precedent.

BENGALER,
3rd July 1912.

1104. Lord Morley, writes the *Herald*, observed in the despatch on Council Reforms that "If Local Self-Government has so far been no marked success as a training ground, it is mainly for the reason that the constitution of the local bodies departed from what was affirmed in the resolution (of Lord Ripon) to be the true principle." The Royal Commission on Decentralization think that the failure has largely been due to the circumscription of their powers and resources. The existing scheme of Local Self-Government, the journal goes on to say, runs counter to these principles, and if the Government desire a large measure of success in the working of the District and rural Boards they should be reformed in the light of these principles. It is not too much to say that the District Collector now practically rules the District Board and in the local Boards the authority of the Subdivisional Officer is supreme. The various departments of the Government also exercise a sort of indirect control. The Boards do not control a service of work they pay for. Their function resolves itself into a registering of decrees of the official Chairman or giving a sort of passive counsel to the arrangements made by the departments of the Government.

HERALD,
3rd July 1912.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

1105. "Public man", Narainganj, writes to the *Herald*, complaining of the lack of conveniences for the travelling public at the Narainganj steamer station. The coolies on the *Tegra* have proved to be a great source of annoyance. There is only one clerk in the office to book passengers' luggage, and his services are hardly sufficient. The correspondent suggests that a superior officer of the steamer company should always be present at the arrival and departure of the mail.

HERALD,
28th June 1912.

1106. In a letter to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* "A Freemason" brings to notice that in consequence of a heavy flood in the river Mour numerous breaches have been effected in the embankments of the river. The result of this flood was disastrous. In many places the bunds have been rebuilt but in respect, of one place no steps have been taken either by the zamindar concerned or by the authorities. Petition after petition was made for the repairs of the breach near Sewlihat, but no steps have yet been taken in that direction.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th June 1912.

1107. Drawing the attention of the authorities of the East Indian Railway to an incident at Baidyanath junction in which a Eurasian passenger is said to have assaulted fellow passengers and forcibly turned them out of the compartment, the *Bengalee* urges: "If the law does not at present provide for railway prosecution in such cases, it should be amended, and the initiative should be

BENGALER,
30th June 1912.

taken by the Railway Board. Above all, we appeal to the authorities to provide every important station with an adequate police staff, so that in any case of emergency the station officers might not find themselves unequal to the duty of protecting passengers, especially female passengers. It is a perfect scandal that cases of this kind should occur without it being possible for the station staff to deal suitably with the offenders, and sometimes even to restrain them."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
1st July 1912.

1108. Suresh Chandra Chatarji, muktear, Jangipur, brings to the notice of the *Hindoo Patriot* that among the contractors employed on the construction of the Barharwa-

Azimgunge-Katwa branch of the East Indian Railway a good number of Punjabis are to be found. It is a most curious sight to the people of this sleepy hollow of Jangipur to find a stalwart Punjabi with his big turban on walking their streets scarcely ever trodden by the feet of a foreigner. This appearance of the Punjabis among them, though an object of curiosity to the most, has become an object of terror to many. Because these rude and rough upcountry people who are physically strong and thus possess a superabundance of brute force find themselves, in this far-off mufassal, amongst a people, genteel, meek and weak, most unmeddlesome and easy-going. Taking advantage of this, these daring upcountry railway men have been exercising the worst sort of *zooloom* over the ryots of the villages through and by which the railway line passes. Scarcely a week passes which does not bring to us the report of a poor man being confined, assaulted or otherwise maltreated.

BENGAL, 3rd July 1912.

1109. P. R. Ghoshal complains in the *Bengalee* against the Canal Department, which is responsible for cutting off at their own sweet will the flow of water in the brook

known as the Eden Canal in the district of Hooghly. It is the only means of obtaining drinking water in the hundreds of villages through which it passes; and when the supply is cut off, the people are in a deplorable state. Famine, plague and other epidemics stare them in the face. The attention of the Government is drawn to the subject, that they may take the management of this canal into their own hands.

(h)—General.

EAST,
10th June 1912.

1110. With reference to the news that His Excellency the Governor of Bengal while at Dacca will be accompanied by the

His Excellency the Governor's visit to Dacca.

heads of departments, the *East* states that it is urgently needed that those heads of departments who can be conveniently stationed at Dacca may continue their stay there permanently. "It is but fair and just that East and West Bengal peoples should be equally in touch with the Government in their capital cities and be in a position to equally share the benefits of the new administration and advance on the path of progress side by side. We hope and trust that His Excellency Lord Carmichael will sympathetically, as it is his wont, consider the important question and see his way to solve it to the great consolation of the Muhammadans and Hindus alike. For our part we feel no hesitation in affirming that the permanent stay of some of the heads of departments at Dacca shall be hailed with joy by the people as a great boon confirmed upon them after the removal of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. We need hardly mention that this administrative boon coupled with the educational boon of the Teaching and Residential University at Dacca will enable the people of East Bengal to march forward and onward politically and intellectually like their brethren of West Bengal."

HERALD,
27th June 1912.

1111. Referring to His Excellency the Governor's first visit to East Bengal, the *Herald* writes: "In Lord Carmichael,

The Governor's first visit to East Bengal.

from what we have already heard of His Excellency, we are confident of finding a ruler who will always grant us a hearing. Quite other things have prevailed in these parts, and the people of the country were looked down with a distrust for which there was no justification. That distrust again gave rise to developments here and there so much against the nature of the people. And the mistake was committed of confounding the guilty with the innocent (*sic*.) We hope there will

no more be the same distrust and we can emphatically state not a trace will be found of anything in the mind of the people which is not loyal."

1112. With reference to Lord Crewe's declaration on the third reading of the Government of India Bill in the House of Lords, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks: "We

Provincial Autonomy.

wonder if public mind in India has yet realised to its fullest extent the unhappy significance of Lord Crewe's latest utterances on Provincial Autonomy, noticed by us yesterday. It puts under ban all idea of self-government in India, the germs of which, laid by the noble declaration of Queen Victoria, were just sprouting up, and which received its latest benediction from His Imperial Majesty by reason of his indirect association with the famous Despatch of August 25th. So one fateful declaration from his Lordship is big with several black catastrophes for India—exit hope from every Indian heart and enter in its place not merely bitter disappointment but blank despair, the depth of which cannot be fathomed by any stretch of language or imagination. Has Lord Crewe done a service or disservice to the Empire by shattering to pieces an ideal which the people of India have been fondly cherishing in their breasts so long with such ardent hope and affection?"

1113. The *Bengalee* comments as follows on the same subject:—

Ibid.

"We are not going to be diverted by the protestations of a Minister, however high or responsible, from the pursuit of the goal to which it points. The Despatch is there, clear in its meaning and luminous in its guidance. The interpretation of the Despatch may be a settled fact for Lord Crewe; but we have unsettled one settled fact, and we mean to unsettle this one too. We may not do it in our own life-time; but we mean to prepare the ground for it; and that it will be unsettled all history proclaims as one of the certainties of the future. With the eye of faith we hopefully look forward to the future, every moment of which will bring the message nearer to its fruition. Time is with us. The progressive forces of the age will help us. The reactionaries with all their work will be swept away. The present controversy will linger as a painful incident in the historic recollection, but it will not arrest the growth and evolution of those events, but rather stimulate them, which will culminate in the establishment of autonomous government in India. For the disappointment of the hour will infuse new enthusiasm and stimulate the forces of action. All is for the best in this world of God's providence, and through trials and disappointments and the moral strength which they communicate, humanity marches to an assured triumph. So will it be with us, and perhaps in the long run it will be found that Lord Crewe's utterance has been a blessing in disguise. Our people have been stirred and they will not, we are sure, rest content until, by their efforts, they have advanced the question to a nearer stage of solution."

"He must be a blind man who, in the face of the stupendous social and moral transformation which is being effected before our eyes, would venture to assert that the day can be long in coming when India will evolve a political personality. The spread of education coupled with the pressure of the environment is rapidly breaking down barriers between race and race, class and class; and the more self-conscious among India's sons, belonging to whatever race or class, are fast coming to see that for the evolution of an Indian nationality it is by no means necessary that the races and classes should give up their distinctive individualities and become a homogeneous mass. All that is necessary, they perceive clearly, is that the different races should recognise the underlying unity of their civic and political destiny, and should seek to realise that destiny through a common national life. Who that walks with his eyes open can doubt that the tendency on all sides in this country is towards the evolution of this common life? Self-Government therefore can only be regarded as a question of time, and it will depend very largely upon ourselves how soon it may come."

1114. Referring to the same subject, the *Herald* writes:—"Every cloud has a silver lining, and the present blow to the aspirations of the Indians we think is not without

Ibid.

a brighter side. A remaining chapter on our political education is, it seems, thus unfolded to us. Perhaps this brings to us the knowledge that

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
28th June 1912.

BENGALIEE,
28th June 1912.
29th June 1912.

HERALD,
28th June 1912.

we cannot always be sure of anything even from the highest quarters, though our claims may be based on justice and fair play. It may be the case that we are by this taught that an amount of hard knocking will be necessary before what is our due is granted to us. And that before we can persistently agitate for it, no concession will be granted to us by the Authorities in England. We have as yet ventilated our grievances in India alone. The ultimate step of laying before the final Authority of the Imperial Parliament has yet to be done. The concessions which could be gained from moving the Indian Authorities have partly been granted, but that more privileges will have to be conceded remains to be recognised yet. This principle can be authoritatively accepted in England only. Sometimes we see it is, sometimes not, but when we have made it clear to Authorities there, what our aspirations are, and that nothing short of them will satisfy the people of India, we believe in place of initiation in one document, support in another speech and recantation of the whole thing afterwards will be replaced by a statutory declaration which will leave nothing for us to desire. We have not yet shown our mind to the highest Authorities in that way. Persistent and untired agitation will have to be taken in hand now Lord Crewe's recantation brings to us this lesson. We say therefore the matter is not without a brighter side."

MUSALMA.
28th June 1912.

1115. On this subject the *Mussalman* comments as follows: "Lord Crewe has declared that he sees no future for India on those

Provincial autonomy.

lines, i.e., he does not believe that self-government on colonial lines can ever be established in India. We do not attach much importance to this sort of belief on the part of British Ministers. When an oft-repeated settled fact can be unsettled by a single stroke of the pen if only the agitation against that settled fact be persistent, any belief on the part of the Ministers can be easily shaken if only we can persistently point out that the belief is wrong. Self-government is the goal of all political aspirations; does his Lordship seriously think that the Indians can be made to halt in the midway? When his Lordship is prepared to allow them to participate in the further management of their own affairs it may be taken as an axiomatic truth that the British Government will in time feel compelled to grant them self-government on Colonial lines. In the midst of rejuvenated Japan, China, Persia and Turkey, can it be expected that India will remain satisfied with her present lot?"

COMRADE,
29th June 1912.

1116. Commenting on the same subject, the *Comrade* writes: "Lord Crewe perhaps thought that by an emphatic pronouncement he would for ever lay all vague hopes to rest.

Ibid.

On the contrary he has turned all vague hopes into a sharp, insistent desire. He has sown the seed of an agitation that is likely to spring up in the immediate future, and may grow to be as unpleasant as any the country has seen. All that we desire is that it should be possible for all communities to participate therein. Then alone is it likely to result in blessings. It will also show—incidentally—at what strange destination Diplomacy arrives when it undertakes the journey of statesmanship!"

REIS AND RAYYET,
29th June 1912

1117. Commenting on the same subject, *Reis and Rayyet* writes:—

Ibid.

"From the high pedestal of official authority Lord Crewe has hurled a bolt which has inflicted a wound to his King, scarred most damagingly the Government of India, and instead of giving a great opportunity on a great occasion, has helped to knock British liberalism on the head. And yet he knows that the stamp of his authority may not last beyond his official career. Of sickening homilies and vapid assurances India has got tired. Promises once held out have been broken so often that Lord Crewe's mellifluous explanation of the third paragraph in question will not shock Indian feeling. The paragraph never meant much and means nothing now, and there ends the matter."

BENGALUR,
30th June 1912.

1118. "Self-government" in a letter to the *Bengalee* referring to Lord Crewe's declaration regarding Provincial Autonomy

Ibid.

suggests that a meeting of representatives of different parts of India be held in Calcutta or elsewhere to consider whether self-government for India is possible. If Indian public opinion be found unable to endorse the views of the Secretary of State, let a resolution be adopted, strongly protesting against them, and asking him to reconsider his

opinion. When "settled facts" can be unsettled, a Secretary of State can be made to retract thoughtless and groundless statements.

1119. The *Herald* remarks: "Our disappointment with regard to Lord

Provincial autonomy.

Crewe's declaration is not very great for we had grown accustomed to this sort of things. The 'straightforward course' suggested by Lord Lytton is also not forgotten. And we remember the famous saying of Emerson that consistency is the bugbear of fools. In the presence of all these learned authorities there is no cause for any great surprise or alarm. Some of our countrymen, who supported the transfer of capital to Delhi on the prospect of provincial autonomy in the near future, ought now to reconsider their position. And the famous writer in a Calcutta daily, who is going very carefully into details of this scheme, may well slacken his speed."

1120. The *Bengalee* writes: "Referring to Lord Crewe's recent declaration that it is impossible to extend self-government to India, an Indian contemporary observed,

Ibid.

that the dream of provincial autonomy has vanished. The dream of Indian autonomy urges the *Bengalee* is as real to-day as it ever was in the past. Every day that passes is bound to bring this dream nearer to its fulfilment. The dreams of one generation, it is a commonplace, are the realities of the next. We have in our own lifetime seen many a dream converted into a reality, and we are determined with the aid of the constitutional weapons at our disposal to convert the dream of Indian autonomy into one. It is worse than fatuous on the part of any statesman, however high his official position, to imagine that he can keep a nation of three hundred millions of highly intelligent human beings for ever out of their birth-right. After all self-government to a nation is what self-determination is to an individual: and it is no more possible to deny a nation the right of governing itself than to deny an individual the right of determining his future. Say what Lord Crewe and Lord Morley may, it will depend not upon them, but upon us, how soon England may be convinced of the desirability of extending self-government to India. And we are resolved that the consummation, so full of promise both to England and India, shall not be postponed a day longer than is absolutely necessary."

1121. Reverting to the invidious distinction which has been made in the

Director of Agriculture's office.

office of the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, the *Mussalman* understands that the Director of Agriculture is trying to induce the Government to believe that no partiality has been done in his office. The journal, however, is in possession of facts to prove these allegations, and desires the Government to hold an inquiry that the grievances of the clerks wronged may be redressed.

1122. "A Citizen" writes to the *Herald* expressing his views on the partition of Mymensingh: "The only objection

The Partition of Mymensingh.

of any importance, says he, is to the blow aimed at the Mymensingh town; it will ere long in the event of the partition be reduced to position of nullity and insignificance. This is a serious thing and a scheme which would ensure the advantages of the partition without weakening to any serious degree the importance of the town is worth seeking after. The disadvantages of the present scheme disappear, if Mymensingh forms the headquarters of one part of the district. This scheme will no doubt cause some decline in the importance of the town, but why should the people of the Mymensingh town stand in the way of good government and efficient administration merely for selfish reasons?"

1123. Commenting on this subject, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes: "It

Ibid.

should be distinctly understood that the threatened partition of Mymensingh is a matter in which the people of the whole of Bengal are directly or indirectly interested. For, the dismemberment of that district means the dismemberment of other districts as well. So if the ball is once set a-going by dividing Mymensingh into two, the turn of every big district will come in due course. The other day we described some of the evils of the partition of a district in a leading article. Indeed, it produces all the disastrous results of the dismemberment of a province on a smaller scale. The administrative cost is enormously increased, which means further burden on the people. The tie of common interest existing

HERALD.
1st July 1912.

BENGALIAN.
3rd July 1912.

MUSSALMAN.
26th June 1912.

HERALD.
21th June 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
29th June 1912.

among a homogeneous and undivided population from time immemorial is cut asunder and a feeling of estrangement created between the two divided sections. It is not a local question at all, but an all-Bengal one. Every district should, therefore, stand by and offer its deep sympathy and strong support to Mymensingh."

BENGAL, 29th June 1912.

1124. The *Bengalee* writes as follows with regard to the same subject: The Partition of Mymensingh. "The people of Mymensingh do not want the partition of their district. They are unanimous about

it. The partition may possibly add a trifle to the efficiency of the administration and perhaps to the number of officials to be employed. With the strong popular feeling against it, is it desirable or expedient to partition the district? Would not such a course be wholly against Lord Morley's dictum?"

BENGAL, 3th June 1912.

1125. The *Bengalee* further urges: "True efficiency always seeks to carry the people with it, and never places itself in opposition to the wishes and sentiments of the people.

Ibid. It always recognises that Government like all other human institutions is for the people, not the people for it, and that a measure, whether executive or legislative, is successful only when public opinion is in its favour. Judged by this test, the proposed partition of Mymensingh has as little to recommend it as the other and bigger partition had."

EAST, 1st July 1912.

1126. The *East* writes: "We are confident that Lord Carmichael, with the help of His Excellency's advisers the Hon'ble members of the Executive Council, and the heads

Administration of East Bengal. of departments, will succeed in giving a great impetus to the advancement of the people of this part of the province in all important matters pertaining to it. What is required of the representative men of the Muhammadan and the Hindu community in general and of those of different castes among the Hindus in particular, is to be up and doing in cordially co-operating with the Government in furthering the welfare of all classes of people and in securing prosperity and peace among them. That the interests of the classes and masses must be equally looked into by the representatives of the Government and those of the people alike at the present juncture goes without saying."

INDIAN EMPIRE, 2nd July 1912.

1127. In the course of a lengthy article on diplomacy, the *Indian Empire* writes: "The apparent unrest and feverish anxiety which educated Indians never make an attempt to

Diplomacy. conceal and ever betray in their daily life, can hardly leave a doubt as to the direction in which the wind blows. In a country like India, ruled by aliens, unacquainted with the habits and thoughts and custom of the subject people, the administration of the country is bound to be defective so long the indigenous element is left in the background. If the representative Government is found necessary in the United Kingdom, for the growth of the nation and the prosperity of the country, its introduction in India is inevitable, and no amount of sophistry would be of avail in explaining away the validity of the contention. There can be no question about the fact that in the proper administration of India leading to the prosperity of the country, lies the best interest of England, and this consummate condition of administration is the inevitable sequence to the representative form of Government obtained in England. To ignore the validity of the contention is to sacrifice truth to short-sightedness and vanity."

BENGAL, 2nd July 1912.

1128. Commenting on the Resolution of the Government of India, prescribing an entirely different course of training for candidates for direct appointment to the Provincial Forest Service, the *Bengalee* writes: "This is giving a discretion to the

The Provincial Forest Service. Local Governments, which, we are convinced, will in many cases be abused. The only effect of the new rule, dispensing with established educational qualifications, will be to facilitate the appointment of non-Indians, with the result that even in the Provincial Forest Service it will be difficult for Indians to find employment. They are already excluded from the higher ranks of the Forest Service; and this rule will, in many cases, be so interpreted as to exclude them also from the lower. Against a rule of this kind the educated community will, we have not the least doubt, enter their emphatic protest. We earnestly hope the Government of India will not take this retrograde and reactionary step."

1129. Animadverting on the Kabuli riot near Beadon Square of the 20th

The Kabulis.

June, the *Hindoo Patriot* suggests that Government should do something to put a stop to the Kabuli nuisance. "Why these people should be allowed to break the peace and indulge in lawlessness is more than we can see. They not only resort to Calcutta, but penetrate far into the interior and commit depredations in the villages, where the people are too weak to defend themselves. We think the authorities should take strong measures to relieve the country of the nuisance, which reminds us of the worst days of the *Burgi*."

HINDOO PATRIOT.
4th July 1912.

1130. Commenting on the proposal to raise a Eurasian regiment, the

Eurasian Regiments.

Hindoo Patriot urges:—"Too many of the Eurasians have already gone to the wall and too many others are going in the same direction, so that the starting of a few Eurasian regiments in the country will serve a very useful moral and political purpose. It will take pressure off a community that has not been able to hold its own in the battle of life in India, and it will in a manner indirectly help the various other communities that are now struggling for the loaves and fishes of Government that are to be obtained in the civil departments. For all these reasons it is most advisable that the Government should now endeavour to do its best in forming a few Eurasian regiments that have so long been prayed for."

HINDOO PATRIOT.
4th July 1912.

1131. In the course of an article showing the falsity of the statement of

Is India progressing in the right direction?

Lord Harris, *ex* Governor of Bombay, that India is progressing in the right direction, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
4th July 1912.

"The progress of India has been painfully unusual in the growth of administrative cost and the crowding of public services with highly-paid European officers. Fancy that in the place of one Lieutenant-Governor, who could very well manage the affairs of the Province of Bengal, consisting of Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Chota Nagpur and Assam for half a century, we have now got one Governor with three highly-paid members of his Executive Council, one Lieutenant-Governor with three highly-paid members of his Executive Council, and a Chief Commissioner with a number of highly-paid officers to carry on the administration of their respective provinces.

"Many districts, again, have now two district officers instead of one as before, and there is not one district where the police force has not been enormously increased.

"And yet Bengal was not previously so intersected by a network of railways, telegraphs, steamers and public roads as now, which ought to enable a single Governor with only a few Secretaries to administer the affairs of the undivided Province of Bengal far more efficiently than before.

"But are the three provinces likely to prosper under three separate Governments with this huge administrative cost thrown upon each? We very much doubt. No appreciable funds will be available, after meeting the administrative cost, to carry out any substantial reforms. Think of the condition of Bengal proper. There is not a village in Bengal which has not become the abode of deadly diseases. There is not one hamlet which does not suffer annually for four months during the hottest season of the year from something like water famine, unless it has got a river or lake close to it.

"It should be noted here that sixty years ago people were in a much happier state. They had then an abundance of nourishing food like fish and milk and a constant supply of pure drinking water; they were free from the disastrous effects of the outbreaks of epidemic malaria and cholera; villages then teemed with healthy and cheerful, and not sickly and care-worn, people as now.

"In those days one Lieutenant-Governor, with a small staff of officers, managed the affairs of the province from Assam to Bihar and the administrative cost was necessarily small."

1132. Commenting on the organization of the new Public Service Com-

The new Public Service Commission.

mission, the *Bengalee* writes:—"We are anxious that considerable latitude should be allowed to the Commission and that it should have authority to deal with the public services affecting India which are recruited in England

BENGALIEE,
4th July 1912.

as well as in India. The last Public Service Commission was appointed to devise a scheme that would possess the elements of finality and do the fullest justice to the claims of our countrymen to high and responsible offices in the State. While thankfully admitting that something has been done in these directions, we regret to have to say that finality has not been attained, nor has the fullest justice been done to the aspirations of our countrymen. That a new Public Service Commission should be needed is in itself evidence of the partial failure of the work of the old Commission so far as the question of finality is concerned, and it is abundantly clear that the creation of a Provincial Service has had the effect of operating as a bar to the advancement of our countrymen to the higher offices of State. Much will depend upon the *personnel* of the new Commission and even more upon the scope of the reference made to it."

III.—LEGISLATION.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th June 1912.

1133. Referring to the memorial which the Marwari Association and the Marwari Chamber of Commerce of Calcutta have submitted to the Government of Bengal, pointing out that, considering the importance of Indian Commerce in Bengal, it should be represented by at least two members in the Local Council, one being a Bengali, the other a Marwari, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

"Now that the dream of provincial autonomy has vanished, the Government, in order to prevent the rising volume of seething discontent which must result from the unhappy declaration of Lord Crewe, should be prepared to create more seats of Indian representatives, both in the Supreme and Local Legislative Councils, though they are but shadows of shadows of real self-governing bodies. There are hundreds of worthy men quite competent to discharge the kind of duties which Members of Councils are required to do. They do not demand any pay for their services. All that they want are a few chairs to sit in a corner of the Council Chamber, and the privilege of speaking out their minds to the rulers when the turn of each comes round. But the authorities cannot accept even a dozen representatives from the educated classes, or more than one member from Indian commerce and trades, so far as the Bengal Legislative Council is concerned!

"If the children of the soil have been virtually ostracised from all important offices in the public services, the policy underlying such an arrangement is at least intelligible. For, as responsible posts in the public services carry princely salaries, the ostracism of the people means material gain to the members of the ruling caste. But why should the children of the soil be excluded even from purely honorary work? The only possible answer can be this, namely, an inordinate love of power on the part of the governing authorities. But they would be gainers and not losers if they can restrain it a little.

"May we enquire, why should not every district of Bengal be allowed to send its own representative? Why should not Indian commerce and trade again have the privilege, as the Marwari memorialists contend, of returning at least two members? If this were conceded, not only would there be real and adequate representation in Council, but the scramble for seats would not bring in its train all the evils of the elective system which could only be neutralised if the people were given larger representation."

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

MUSSALMAN,
26th June 1912.

1134. Reverting to Mr. Montagu's statement that the Muhammadans were not a homogeneous nationality, the *Mussalman* is pleased to hear that the Under-Secretary has made amends and has expressed his regret that his remarks had given rise to misunderstanding. "Now the paper goes on to say when the unity and solidarity and the consequent importance of the Indian Mussalmans have been recognised, it would be interesting to see what Mr. Montagu now says about the claims of the Muhammadans. Will he not now

be forced to admit that 'further than that' the Muhammadans had many rights? The India Office will have to recognise the legitimate rights of the Indian Moslems and make provision for the satisfaction of their claims."

1135. Radhagovinda Basak, M. A., Lecturer, Rajshahi College, brings to notice in a letter to the *Bengalee* that a Muhammadan inhabitant of the village Belávo in the Mahidwardi Pargana while digging a plot of ground came across a copperplate inscription. This came into the hands of the Settlement Sub-Deputy Collector, who sent it to the correspondent to decipher. But before he could complete the work, the plate was taken away by Mr. Ascoli, Settlement Officer. The correspondent has fortunately kept a copy of the inscription and hopes to publish it with translation at an early date.

BENGALINE.
1st July 1912.

J. S. WILSON,

Specpl. Asstt. to the Deputy Insp.-Genl. of Police.

OFFICE OF THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPT.,
9, ELYSIUM ROW,
The 6th July 1912.